FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 MAY 1986

Israel and Syria

There is no chance of Israel reaching a political settlement with Syria so long as President Hafiz al-Asad remains in power, Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres asserted in an interview reported by Jerusalem radio. He disclosed that Israeli efforts to establish a dialogue with the Syrians have received a negative response. As for Syria's military preparations, Jerusalem television stated that Israel takes a "very grave view" of fortifications recently established by the Syrians in eastern Lebanon, noting that a message on the issue has been transmitted to President al-Asad, but has "not yet borne fruit." The Syrians have prepared dugouts for tanks and artillery south of their current deployment line in the Al-Biqa' Valley, the television said, and while the United States has viewed these preparations as "defensive," the dugouts provide potential for an "offensive initiative" as large Syrian armored forces could occupy them within hours. In another military development, Beirut radio cited reports from southern Lebanon that Israeli military convoys were seen moving toward the Golan Heights during the night of 12-13 May. However, the commander of UN forces on the Golan earlier told IDF radio that both the Israeli and Syrian sectors of the heights were "quiet" with both sides adhering to their agreements.

In a related commentary, Jerusalem radio's Arabic service accused Syria of "war hysteria," adding that the crucial question now is whether the Damascus rulers will "slip and fall in the trap or whether they will show wisdom by deciding not to go to the brink of disaster." In Syria, Damascus radio's Palestine broadcast maintained that Britain's recent behavior toward Syria is aimed at providing a "cover for an Israeli aggression," which is "likely to take place but will certainly be defeated."

Syria-Iran

Reporting on the Syrian foreign minister's 12 May visit to Iran, Tehran radio said he stressed the importance of "further unity" between Iran and Syria and delivered a "kind message" from President al-Asad to Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio reported further fighting in the East Maysan sector, claiming that Iraq's IV Army Corps defeated an enemy infantry attack, killing 76 Iranians, while over 240 Iranians were killed in other recent action in the area. An Iraqi military source cited by INA maintained that 1,584 Iranians were killed during the IV Army's 9 May offensive in the East Maysan sector. An Iranian communique cited by IRNA reported fighting in the same region, stating that Iranian planes bombed Iraqi targets in the Faqqeh area 12-13 May while Iranian troops repulsed two Iraqi attacks. Iran launched further air attacks in the Faqqeh sector early 13 May, according to a military announcement reported by Tehran radio.

On the situation in the Gulf, Iran's Navy commander told *ETTELA'AT that U.S. and French warships have recently been* disturbing Iranian searches of cargo ships entering the Gulf, and he warned the United States and France against such interference, according to IRNA.

Libya

Announcing Libya's decision to expel 36 diplomats from the embassies of Italy, FRG, France, Netherlands, Spain, Belgium, and Denmark, JANA said the diplomats are being deported in retaliation for the "arbitrary measures" adopted by these countries against members of Libyan People's Bureaus. JANA noted that employees remaining at these embassies are henceforth confined to the Tripoli area, which they cannot leave without securing official permission. Libya would not have applied the principle of reciprocal treatment had there been any real justification for the deportation of Libyans from People's Bureaus in Western Europe, JANA's political editor affirmed in a related commentary. The expulsion of two Belgian officials means that U.S. interests are no longer represented at all in Libya, according to Brussels radio.

In a separate development, JANA claimed the Israeli Air Force chief of staff has disclosed that "five Zionist pilots" participated in the 15 April U.S. raid on Libya.

Tunisian Detained in France

A Tunisian suspected of bomb attacks in Paris and London has told French police that he received orders and explosives from a PLO official in Baghdad, Paris radio reported.

Qatar-Bahrain

Qatar released the 30 captive foreign workers 12 May, Bahrain's *GULF DAILY NEWS reported, disclosing that the men were* suddenly taken from their cells and put on a flight to Bahrain.

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Klibi Warns Israel Against Attacking Syria
LD091023 Kuwait KUNA in English 0805 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Tunis, May 9 (KUNA) — Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi has warned Israel against the consequences of executing its plan to launch an aggression against Syria. In an answer to a question from KUNA, Klibi said such an aggression would be of dire consequences to peace and security in the Middle East and may be far beyond.

Klibi criticized the recent statement made by U.S. Vice President George Bush in which he accused Syria of sponsoring terrorism, noting that this statement has been issued after Bush's meeting with Israel's Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. The allegations voiced by Bush came at a time Israel is concentrating its troops on the front with Syria and along the armistice line with Lebanon, Klibi also noted.

He expressed belief that any Israeli aggression on Syria following Bush's statement and the Israeli admission into the American star wars program would be the outcome of coordination between the U.S. and Israel and "would not be without impact on the Arab-American relations." Klibi concluded saying it is clear that the latest Israeli threats are being directed, through Syria, to all Arab forces which are struggling against the Israeli hegemony and which reject surrender and the liquidation of the Palestinian cause.

Arab Support for Al-Qadhdhafi Seen as 'Thin'
AU121708 Paris AFP in English 1649 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] London, May 14 (AFP) — Arab support for Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi is "thin indeed and may not last much longer," the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) said in a report released here Wednesday.

In its annual strategic survey 1985-86, the institute said the U.S. raids on Tripoli and Banghazi on April 15 had triggered official expressions of support in the Arab world for Col. al-Qadhdhafi including from moderate leaders.

But "it is clear that privately many of them would like to see him removed."

"There is little doubt that support for Al-Qadhdhafi is thin indeed and may not last much longer," the report added.

Referring to the Libyan leader's failure to greatly increase his infuence in neighboring African countries, the institute said his effectiveness had been "reduced" in the past year.

At the same time, the change in the Middle East balance of forces continued to tilt in the favor of hardliners. This was part of a trend that included the Iranian revolution led by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, the assassination of President Anwar al-Sadat of Egypt and the Syrian victory in Lebanon, the institute said.

Israeli Soldier Fatally Stabbed in Janin
JN111813 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1717 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] A military spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command has stated the following:

In implementation of instructions issued to him, one of our hero revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland stabbed an enemy soldier in the Janin market in the occupied West Bank yesterday. The soldier was fatally wounded. Our revolutionary returned safely to base. The Zionist security forces besieged the operation area, launched large-scale search campaigns, and arrested a number of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of connection with the operation. Revolution until victory.

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces general command

Joint Resistance Attacks Targets in S. Lebanon
JN111827 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1717 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] A group belonging to the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces used rockets and machineguns to attack a Zionist military patrol on the road of [name indistinct] near the international border between Lebanon and occupied Palestine yesterday. The attack destroyed a military vehicle, damaged another, and killed or wounded their personnel.

Another group belonging to the joint forces attacked an observation post belonging to the occupation forces and their agent militias in Tilal al-Ahmadiyah, scoring direct hits and killing or wounding several agent and Zionist elements.

BAHRAIN

Continuing Reportage on Fasht al-Dibal Dispute

Qatar Releases Workers

GF130526 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 13 May 86 p 1

[Article by staff reporters]

[Text] Qatar has dramatically released the 30 men it has been holding for 17 days.

Diplomats in Doha, who had been expecting just 17 men to be set free, were suddenly told all the men would be going home.

Within minutes of the announcement late yesterday morning the men - 25 Filipinos, two Britons, two Thais and a Dutchman - were taken from their cells to begin the journey back to Bahrain.

"They were just brought out at very short notice, taken straight to the airport and on to the plane," said a British embassy spokesman in Doha.

The men, employees of Ballast Nedam, Gray Mackenzie and Muharraq Engineering, boarded a scheduled Gulf Air flight to Bahrain.

Waiting at Muharraq to meet them were representatives of their employers, British, Dutch and Filipino governments and a number of Bahrain government officials.

The wives of two of the hostages, British chief engineer Richard Thompson and Dutch superintendent Wim Hoekendijk, met them directly off the plane.

While an official film crew and photographers filmed the homecoming in a private room the prisoners' luggage - including rolled up bed mats - was loaded on to a waiting Ballast Nedam bus outside the VIP exit.

Just over an hour after touchdown the entourage emerged looking well-fed but sombre and keeping tightlipped about their ordeal.

The three Europeans came out a few minutes after the main party and walked briskly to waiting cars.

"We are now going home," said 54-year-old Dutchman Hoekendyke. It was their sole comment.

British surveyor Brian David, Thompson and his wife Sudan all silently got into one car and it them sped off to join the rest of the party at the Ballast Nedam compound in Jasra.

Uncertainty About Resuming Work

GF130530 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 13 May 86 p 3

[Article by staff reporters]

[Text] Ballast Nedam executives celebrating the return of their abducted employees yesterday said they couldn't tell whether they would finish the work they were doing when the Qataris attacked.

Middle East general manager Jan Kamphuys, speaking at the company's Jasra compound where the men were once again settling in, said "the first phase is over".

The second phase depended on the governments of Bahrain and Qatar resolving their territorial dispute over Fasht Al Dibal, he said, and until that happened it was impossible to say what Ballast Nedam's position would be.

"We have been aiming for the release of the men, and we are very relieved at the outcome of negotiations," he said.

He did not know whether the company would be completing its contract to build a coastguard station for Bahrain on Fasht Al Dibal - the work the 30 were engaged on when the Qataris attacked.

"That is not in our hands. We have no idea whether the work will continue. We will await instructions on how to proceed," he said.

Ballast Nedam's project manager in Bahrain, Pieter Andringa, said there were no plans to move the men out of the Middle East. They were all expecting to return to jobs in Bahrain.

Diplomatic Relations To Be Established With Peru

GF121850 Manama Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] A statement has been issued by the Foreign Ministry on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the State of Bahrain and the Republic of Peru. The statement said that out of the desire to develop, strengthen, and promote the current friendly relations between the State of Bahrain and the Republic of Peru, the two countries have decided to establish diplomatic relations on the ambassadorial level.

Amir Receives Written Message From Saudi King

GF121130 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0525 GMT 12 May 86

[Excerpt] Manama, 11 May (WAKH) — Bahrain Amir His highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah received a written message from Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz pertaining to current developments in the region. The message was conveyed today to his highness the amir of Bahrain by Saudi Education Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir during an audience with the amir.

UAE Official Arrives With President's Message

GF121656 Manama WAKH in English 1630 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Manama, May 12 (WAKH) — Ahmad Khalifah al-Suwaydi, the special representative of the UAE president, arrived here today on a visit to Bahrain. Al-Suwaydi is carrying a written message to H.H. the Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah from UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. He was received by Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah.

KUWAIT

Government Challenged by Religious Parties

LD110947 Kuwait KUNA in English 0813 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Kuwait, May 11 (KUNA) — A local daily Sunday warned that the Kuwaiti Government will continue facing troubles unless it secured a majority in the National Assembly.

AL-SIYASAH daily explained that such a majority would be secured through either "a political system or arrangements between ministers and deputies."

"Otherwise wrangle will continue between the legislative and executive authorities," the paper underscored.

"When disputes intensified, some people whispered that the assembly would be dissolved and when things became cool, there was talk about strengthening democracy by strengthening the National Assembly, as if the assembly alone was the symbol of democracy," it argued.

AL-SIYASAH noted that "the only losers were the public who were waiting for something from the government or the assembly, but both were busy with each other."

Meanwhile, *AL-ANBA'* daily said that the government is currently facing a "serious challenge" that touches not only upon "its existence and future evolution as a present government, but rather on meaning of government and ruling."

The paper attacked the religious parties charging them of engineering the campaign to get rid of the education minister, Dr. Hassan al-Ibrahim.

The government is wrong if it speculated that getting rid of the education minister will be the last item in the religious parties demands, the paper went on.

It concluded that the government decision today will determine the fate of Kuwait and will tell its people if it is capable of continuing to shoulder responsibility or if it chose to give up leaving the religious parties to control the government's destiny and later power." [no beginning quotes as received]

The Kuwaiti Council of Ministers will decide today whether to accept or not the education minister's resignation.

Boycotts Announced Against Four Egyptian Companies

GF111110 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 10 May 86 p 5

[Text] The Israel boycott office in Kuwait has blacklisted four Egyptian companies because of their dealings with the banned Egyptian businessman 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman. It also banned Egyptian "Seti First Travel Co." which had established trade links with Israel. The four companies, in which 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman had substantial shares are the Arab Contractors Company, Bank-Almuhandis, the Egyptian Engineer for Food Industries, and Al-Muhandis Insurance Company.Other companies on the ban list include fifteen Indian diamond trading companies, Grands Magasins Jelmoli S.A. of Switzerland, the Greek Company Daphna Aktis Hellas Lts, owned by the Israeli company Daphna Weizman and Levy, the Spanish company Jaime Carreras and International Metals S.A. of Luxembourg. The embargo has been lifted on the American company David Mikhael Incl, the British company Intel Electronics group Ltd and the Belgian Sidaplax N.V.

OMAN

Sultan Receives Message From Saudi King

GF121235 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 12 May 86

[Excerpt] His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id has received a written message from his brother King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia. The message was conveyed by Major General Yusuf al-Madani, head of the military committee at the GCC secretariat and envoy of the Saudi king, during an audience with his majesty this morning.

PDRY

YSP Official Receives Visiting GDR Delegation

GF121746 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 12 May 86

[Excerpt] Brother Salim Salih Muhammad, assistant secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, received at his office at noon today the delegation of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] under chairmanship of Comrade Dr Friedel Trappen, deputy director of the International Relations Committee of the SED Central Committee, currently visiting our country.

During the meeting Brother Salim Salih expressed his satisfaction at the visit of the party delegation. He said that the visit indicates the higher level of bilateral relations. Brother Salim Salih also expressed pleasure at the success of negotiations between the SYP and SED delegations which dealt with the various scopes of mutual cooperation between the two parties and means of consolidating and developing it.

They also exchanged views on the tense international situation emerging from the escalation of tension in the world, the arms race, space militarization, and the disturbance of security and stability by the United States. The two sides expressed their

concern over this dangerous escalation in international relations and stressed the need to confront this aggressive policy. They stressed the need for expanded solidarity of peace-loving peoples and forces to stop this policy.

QATAR

University Studies Show No 'Abnormal' Radiation

GF121644 Manama WAKH in English 1550 GMT 12 May 86

[Excerpt] Doha, 12 May (WAKH) — The outcome of studies made by Qatar University's scientific and applied research centre showed that state of Qatar is free from any abnormal radiation. A statement issued by the centre today said it is unlikely that radioactive dust reaches Qatar atmosphere and if such a dust arrives it would leave very weak radioactivity, QNA reported. Tests made until this morning showed radiation levels remained the same as those of last year, the statement said.

Amir Receives Note From UAE President

GF121132 Doha QNA in Arabic 1100 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Doha, 12 May (QNA) — Qatari Amir His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani has received a verbal message from UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan dealing with developments in the Gulf region. The message was delivered by Hamad Khalifah al-Suwaydi, representative of the UAE president, during his meeting with his highness the amir of Qatar. Al-Suwaydi arrived in Doha at an earlier date for this reason.

SAUDI ARABIA

Commerce Ministry Bans Food Imports From Europe

GF130544 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1150 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Riyadh, 12 May (SPA) — The Commerce Ministry has issued an order to ban the import of all kinds of frozen meat, vegetables, fresh fruits, and milk from West European countries. Citing a responsible source at the Commerce Ministry, Saudi papers reported today that this ban, which was implemented on Tuesday will last for one week. The source added that this is to protect the Kingdom's citizens and residents from the traces of nuclear reactor radiation from the Soviet Chernobyl reactor. The ban period will be subject to an extension for another period if it becomes evident that the dangers have been eliminated and that the banned products do not contain any nuclear radiation.

Cabinet, King Discuss Bahrain-Qatar Dispute

GF130649 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2240 GMT 12 May 86

[Excerpt] Al-Ta'if, 12 May (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz chaired the Council of Ministers session today. Following the session, his excellency Information Minister 'Ali al-Sha'ir told the SPA correspondent: The Council of Ministers continued its review of the developments in the Arab Gulf arena. It listened to his majesty the king's comprehensive review of all steps he adopted and the intensive contacts he held with officials in the fraternal countries of Qatar and Bahrain since the very beginning of the Arab dispute that erupted as a result of some maritime border issues existing between them. His majesty the king apprised the Council of Ministers on their positive positions and the brotherly spirit he felt when contacting the brothers in the two countries. This helped create the proper atmosphere for reaching quick solutions and consequently permanent solutions to end all differences and remove all their causes in such a way that pleases everybody and ensures peaceful life for all the GCC member countries, God willing.

UAE

Petroleum Minister Discusses Oil Market Problems

PM121110 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 8 May 86 p 4

[Unattributed interview with UAE Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah; date, place not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Now that the recent OPEC conference is over and with nerves relaxed after the 20-day tension of heated discussions, how do you assess the results of the conference and their effects on the oil market?

Answer: It has become abundantly clear that OPEC is still pursuing the same course it initiated after its ordinary meeting last December with a view to getting a fair share of world oil production. The proof is that OPEC's production, which at the end of the conference 2 weeks ago stood at around 17.4 million barrels a day, is now 18 million barrels a day. This reflects OPEC's determination to get an adquate share of the oil market.

OPEC only resorted to this course after it failed to unilaterally solve the oil market problems. The non-OPEC producing states are largely to blame for the current state of the oil market. In the years 1980-1985 they added 6 million barrels to daily oil production, and OPEC allowed that new level of production at the expense of its own production, so much so that by last December the non-OPEC producers were producing at full capacity while the OPEC members only managed to produce 40 percent of their capacity. It was this unjust situation which forced OPEC to abandon its role as a limit producer and enter the oil market as an ordinary producer. If we really want to remedy the oil market and solve its problems then all producers must sit at the same table and distribute burdens and sacrifices among themselves.

Question: Are we to understand from this that OPEC is still determined to pressure Britain and Norway in particular into cooperating with it?

Answer: We consider this to be realistic and effective, and it will continue until all non-OPEC producers respond to the voice of reason and wisdom so that everyone can contribute to the defense of the oil prices structure.

Question: In view of Britain's declared refusal to cooperate with OPEC do you see any possibility of any change in that position through the oil companies operating in the North Sea?

Answer: We do not like to enter a home by the window. We must enter through the door. The North Sea states must therefore bear some of the responsibility for defending the oil market, especially because they are mainly to blame for what has happened to this market and for the price collapse just as they will be to blame for a further prices drop in the future.

Question: The recent conference formed a five-member ministerial committee to contact the non-OPEC producing states. Do you believe that this committee will be able to achieve tangible positive results that would compel the non-OPEC states to cooperate with OPEC in this period?

Answer: That committee is one of the steps initiated by OPEC in an attempt to find suitable solutions to the oil market problems and to emphasize that it is not satisfied with or enjoying what has happened to oil prices and the subsequent loss of royalties. This position was forced on OPEC and is out of its hands. A solution would require more than just OPEC's efforts. We should not expect a solution to be handed to us on a silver platter and within a matter of a few days. More efforts are needed and there should be ample preparations for all future contacts with non-OPEC states.

Question: Last March you had the experience of dialogue with five non-OPEC producing states (that is the joint meeting held between OPEC and the non-OPEC states of Oman, Egypt, Mexico, Malaysia, and Angola on 19 March in Geneva). There was a quasi-agreement that these five states would cut their production by about 1 million barrels a day to support the oil market. How do you assess that experiment and is it possible to achieve positive results in the future with these and other states?

Answer: Our experience with the non-OPEC states is a severe one. True, some states have been positive and responded to our call, but a number of other non-OPEC producing states are still acting as spectators at a time when they are not unaffected by the losses suffered. These states will face major political and economic problems as a result of these losses. What has happened in Norway shows that failure to respond to OPEC's calls is highly detrimental to the governments of these states. As regards the five states we met with in Geneva, they confirmed their goodwill and came to us and expressed willingness to cooperate, but the other states which did not come, and which are more capable of giving and sacrificing more, should respond to OPEC's appeals and share its sacrifices if a quick solution is to be found to the oil market problem.

Question: I go back to the assessment of the results of the recent OPEC meeting. Some observers believe that the success or failure of any OPEC meeting is measured by the rise or drop in oil prices. What effect have the conference results had in relation to the question of stabilizing the market and increasing prices?

Answer: The conference did not discuss the question of prices and so there is no connection between the conference results and oil prices, but we must put it on record here that one of the factors which have negatively affected the oil market was OPEC's loss of credibility. A large number of resolutions have not been implemented and as a result the world no longer believes what OPEC decides as long as the resolutions remain mere ink on paper.

'Big Political Changes' Expected in Libyan Policy

GF121232 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic
9 May 86 pp 1, 8

["Exclusive" report from Rabat]

[Text] *AL-ITTIHAD* has learned that the Libyan leadership will make big political changes with regard to the modus operandi in foreign and domestic policy. Informed sources said these changes will give the revolution command council more powers to rule. The current revolution command council consists of five members: Colonel al-Qadhdhafi; Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi; Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud; Abu Bakr Yunus; and Al- Kharrubi.

One of the changes which will occur in the ruling organs in Libya is giving more powers to the army at the expense of the revolutionary committee. The revolutionary committee, which is an organ supervised by Al-Qadhdhafi himself, used to enjoy greater powers before the U.S. aggression. Since then their role became insignificant as a result of direct personal instructions from Al-Qadhdhafi.

AL-ITTIHAD has also learned that the information organs will witness big changes in the next few days. It is expected that Fawziyah Shalabi will become secretary of the general people's committee for information and culture, succeeding Muhammad Sharaf al-Din.

Libyan media were subject to harsh criticism from the newspaper *AL-JAMAHIR*, the mouthpiece of the revolutionary committees, coping with events following the U.S. aggression.

It is unlikely that the current Libyan government will witness big changes in its makeup as it is waiting for the convocation of the people's basic congresses which have the power to make changes in the Libyan Government.

'Arab Bashing' Threatens Arab-American Relations

GF121130 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English
12 May 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Arab-U.S. Relations at their Nadir"]

[Text] Arab bashing is becoming a popular sport in the West, but as in the case of other cruel sports, it is demeaning the perpetrator/player more than the victim and making humane relationships between the two impossible. Speaking to reporters last weekend, Arab League representative to the UN, Mr Clovis Maqsud, expressed deep concern and dismay over a series of hostile actions and statements by both the Reagan administration and the US Congress. He said that since the American air strikes against Libya in mid-April, "we have been sandwiched

between the Reagan administration's rhetoric on terrorism, which appears aimed at Arabs in general, and the US Congress' clear attempt to subordinate US policy in the Middle East to Israel's agenda." This raises serious questions about the state of Arab-American relations at the present time.

The Libyan wound had hardly healed before Washington began to consider cashing in on its domestic popularity by targeting Syria and Iran, two countries which have so far successfully defied the superpower. The Reagan administration and Tel Aviv are apparently seriously considering delivering another stab in the Arab back by trying to implicate Syria in "terrorist acts" aimed at paving the way for attacking that country. Resistance to Israeli occupation of the Golan Heights is intensifying, and Israel would like to strike at Syria before it can further strengthen its military capability. The excuse, as usual, has to be sought in allegations of involvement in terrorism. American Vice-President George Bush was quick to charge that "Syria's fingerprints have been on terrorist acts", although as in the case of the so-called 'irrefutable evidence' implicating Libya in the West Berlin bombing, we can be sure that we will never be shown those fingerprints. Now, Britain's Thatcher government has also joined the conspiracy. It has expelled three Syrian diplomats because Damascus refused to waive their diplomatic immunity, although the Syrian ambassador was prepared to allow police to question them on embassy premises in connection with the alleged attempt to smuggle a bomb abroad an Israeli plane at London. As the ambassador explained, the three had not been charged with any offence, and to lift immunity every time police want to question any diplomat would make a mockery of this universally recognised privilege.

The Reagan administration's stance towards Damascus and Tripoli is not surprising since, in the din of its anti-terrorist rhetoric, it seems to be incapable of making a distinction between what is legitimate resistance and an outright act of terror when dealing with the Palestinians (although it has no hesitation in financing, and even participating in terrorist acts in support of the Contras or UNITA). What is curious, however, is the fact that Washington is increasingly uninterested even in countries which have hitherto relied on the Americans' sense of fairness, and their political support and military hardware. Saudi Arabia, by all accounts, has been friendly to the US for decades, but suchis the pro-Zionist mania raging in Washington at the present t i m e that Congress has just rejected by an overwhelming margin a modest Saudi arms deal to defend its own interests on thegrounds that Riyadh had refused to join the Camp David process and that the arms might be used against Israel. The fact is that over the past four decades, the Arab world has suffered from encroachment, primarily from Zionist expansionism, and if we do not reserve the right to use the arms we acquire to defend our territories and our interests, why should we indulge in the luxury of obtaining them. Admittedly, President Reagan has promised to veto the congressional resolution, but few will have forgotten the speed with which the same administration dropped a Jordanian arms deal when it met congressional opposition.

Faced with such hostility in the West, what should be the Arab response. There are still some who desperately hope that there will soon be a return to sanity and a clearer perception of American interests in the Middle East which lately have been so heavily identified with Zionist interests. Mr Maqsud made a moving plea when he said that he believed that there was "a corrective (within the American system) that has been silenced and disfunctioned by the charged rhetorical atmosphere which might be transitional." But this band of optimists will quickly disperse if Washington goes ahead with the congressional verdict against Saudi Arabia and if its Zionist protege attempts to strike against Syria.

Central Bank Issues 1985 Annual Report

GF130815 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0700 GMT 13 May 86

[Summary] The UAE Central Bank issued its annual report for 1985 yesterday. The report indicates that the deficit in the UAE budget in 1985 was actually 7.5 billion dirhams rather than 3.6 billion dirhams as was estimated earlier. This shows that the actual budget deficit rose to 38.1 percent in 1985 as compared to the deficit in the budget of 1984, which reached 5.4 billion dirhams. The size of the 1985 budget was 16,633,700,000 dirhams while in 1984 it was 17,229,400,000 dirhams. The commercial balance of payment recorded a surplus of 26 billion dirhams in 1985 compared to 27.4 billion dirhams in 1984. The commercial balance also recorded a surplus of 30.7 billion dirhams. The central bank's possessions of foreign currency and gold rose in 1985 to 3.4 billion dirhams.

'Authoritative' Source on Husayn-Mubarak Talks

GF121055 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0930 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 12 May (WAKH) — An authoritative Egyptian source has said that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak could not reconcile the PLO and Jordan. The source indicated that during his meeting with President Mubarak the Jordanian monarch insisted on adhering to his position on the PLO leadership.

The source told the UAE newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* today that the Jordanian monarch's position on the PLO will make the Egyptian policy look bad in Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat's eyes; 'Arafat had received an Egyptian promise to make efforts to restore PLO-Jordanian coordination to the earlier situation. The source added that important issues were discussed during the meeting Mubarak held with the Jordanian monarch. Among these issues were Egypt's readiness to take part in Jordanian-Palestinian meetings as a third party, with the aim of helping the two sides restore confidence in each other. Yet Jordan did not demonstrate a desire to restore contacts with the PLO.

During the meeting, they also discussed a proposal presented by Gaza Mayor Rashad al-Shawwa which included a rejection of the autonomous rule which Israel proposes to implement in the Gaza Strip, a demand to have matters restored to the situation before 1967 in the Gaza Strip — from the premise that Egypt is historically responsible for this region — and included Egypt's demand for withdrawal of Israeli forces, attaining independence for Palestinian institutions, and establishing an Egyptian bank to facilitate trade in the Gaza Strip. Al-Shawwa also asked for acceptance of Palestinian students into Egyptian universities and easing travel between Gaza and Egypt. The Egyptian sources gave no details on whether Jordan accepted or rejected the proposals as presented by the Gaza mayor to the Egyptian president during their meeting in Cairo last week.

Foreign Minister Meets With Visiting Iraqi Official

NC121152 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with Al-Nuri Isma'il, Iraqi Foreign Ministry under secretary, today. The Iraqi official is currently on a visit to Cairo. Developments in the Gulf war, the current situation in the Arab region, and bilateral relations and ways to promote them in various fields were discussed during this meeting.

Al-Majid Comments On Relations With Arab Countries

NC121425 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has emphasized that Egypt has always assumed a leading role both in war and peace in the Arab homeland. Egypt has played this role, not out of a desire to impose its will but as the inevitable result of Egypt's cultural, historic, and human reality. He said that this fact reflects the distinguished role Egypt has played in the Arab homeland throughout the history of the Arab nation.

This came in a statement that Dr 'Abd al-Majid delivered today before a meeting of the Consultative Council, presided over by Speaker Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, while commenting on the council's report on the issue of Egypt and the Arab world. He said that acceptance and favorable response by the Arab masses and public opinion of Egypt's leading role constitutes a firm pillar and solid foundation that must be taken into account, when Egypt's strategic course and future action is drawn up, to achieve the primary goals agreed upon by the Arab people, regardless of casual differences.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid pointed out that casual differences and strifes that have prevailed among Arab countries have not undermined the peoples' determination and will. He affirmed that it is sufficient to view Egypt's cultural efforts in Arab countries that still refuse to establish full official relations with Egypt. This is despite the advanced, cohesive bonds that Arab people have demonstrated with Egypt.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that Egypt pursues a policy that does not impose conditions in its Arab relations. Egypt believes that the current stage of Arab awareness cannot be deceived by slogans nor can the tricks of Arab governments deceive people. Arab people are living through a tragic situation and, he noted, the people of Arab countries realize that the isolation of certain Arab rulers from Egypt is the main and direct reason for the current state of disarray, instability, and threats to the entire region.

Al-Baz: Lebanese Sovereignty in Egypt's Interest

NC091244 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1155 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Beirut, 9 May (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, has stressed that Egypt pays great attention to Lebanon, but has no ambitions there. He added that the maintenance of Lebanese sovereignty over the entire country is in Egypt's interests.

In an interview with the Lebanese magazine *AL-SAYYAD*, Dr al-Baz voiced Egypt's opposition to Lebanon's division into small sectarian states, as Cairo is an ally of the Lebanese people. He went on to say: We consider the partitionist trends that have surfaced in Lebanon in recent years to be destructive.

Commenting on the relationship between Jordan and the PLO, Al-Baz noted that the two sides are not only partners in the peace process, but have common strategic interests. He explained: We are trying to keep the coordination between them going in a bid to preserve those points they agree on. This, he said, will allow dialogue and coordination to resume in due time. He expressed the belief that the Middle East peace process can be revived within several months, pending a Jordanian-Palestinian initiative.

Problems on Getting Arab Summit Analyzed
PM090938 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 7 May 86 p 13

[Wahid 'Abd al-Majid article: "The Arab Foreign Ministers: Goodbye...Summit Institution"]

[Text] The statement issued by the Arab foreign ministers last Thursday postponing the extraordinary Arab summit has surprised a few people. The prevailing belief, even after 3 May was initially fixed as the date for the summit, was that the real chance of the summit being held was slim. But the implications of the postponment and the tone of the statement raise the question of whether there was a certain flaw in the Arab realization of the role of summit policy. While the statement stresses that "the dangers and challenges facing the Arab nation need still further study, examination, preparation, and consultation," the fear of convening a summit before proper preparations and before solving Arab disputes lest they should exacerbate divisions has become more widespread than ever.

This Arab conception of the question of a summit does not take into consideration the fact that the destructive effects of the dangers that need further studying cannot be postponed until the studying is completed. It also ignores the fact that many parties in this world meet and hold conferences and summits despite the fact that what they have in common is far less than the national ties or, at least, the ties of common and lasting interests that are supposed to bring the Arabs together. An example is the summit of the seven industrial states which belong to three continents that opened in Tokyo on Sunday. They met despite the fact that the differences between them are far greater than those among the Arabs themselves. Yet they neither postponed nor canceled it; on the contrary it is the existence of such differences that call for holding a summit. If there was agreement there would have been no great need to hold a summit.

Therefore, the real problem for the Arabs does not lie in the inability to hold a summit but in the insistence by many countries on clinging to their narrow regional interests and placing them before the national interest as well as in the absence of consciousness in the relationship between regional interest and national interest. This was evident in the insistence by some countries on convening the summit in Sabha and nowhere else as well as on restricting the agenda solely to the question of U.S. aggression against Libya. This is despite the fact that the matter is not separate from other Arab issues such as the question of a peaceful settlement, the Jordanian-Palestinian contacts, the Lebanese crisis, and the Gulf war. Thus on the pretext of further examination of the matter before holding a summit and because of putting regional interest above national interest, the real role that the summit could play is lost. The role is to seek agreement on minimum — not maximum — joint Arab action, which is usually called Arab solidarity. This does not necessarily mean solving all the Arab disputes but simply rearranging the regional priorities so that what is agreed upon as a minimum should be placed before what is disagreed upon.

Obviously there is no alternative for the Arabs after the regional blocs have proved their weakness, even those blocs that embrace the countries that are most cohesive historically and socially, following the clash between Bahrain and Qatar.

This is also evident in the extent of the setback to the idea of the Great Maghreb at the meeting of the North African parties in Tangiers last week (the Algerian FLN, the Tunisian Destourian Socialist Party, and the Moroccan Independence Party and Socialist Union of Popular Forces Party) on the occasion of the 1954 Tangiers conference anniversary, whether due to the poor attendance at the conference or to the Algerian-moroccan and the Tunisian-libyan tension dominating the conference's atmosphere.

Most likely the foreign ministers who announced the postponement of the summit paid no attention to this deterioration nor, on the other hand, to the Israeli successes, the latest of whichwas officially receiving the Uruguayan president in Jerusalem and notin Tel Aviv last Friday. This was at the same time as Shamir this week began a Latin American tour with the aim of obliterating the Palestinian role in the absence of an Arab role in Latin America. It is this Arab deterioration that creates more opportunities for Israeli and U.S. strikes, the direction of which observers are now busy predicting.

Perhaps all this will clarify the importance and amount of effort that is still being made at the Arab League secretariat to preserve the Arab house regardless of how effective this preservation may be at present.

If the Arab summit crisis began way back when the fourth Arab summit which was due to be held in Algiers in September 1966 was postponed, it has now reached its peak with the total failure to holdan ordinary or extraordinary summit despite the fact that an Arab country was the target of blatant armed aggression. In the past external threats were sufficient grounds for holding a summit immediately.

Over a period of approximately four years it has been impossible to hold the 13th summit while the Casablanca extraordinay summit in July 1985, which was boycotted by some parties, failed. The gravity of the recent u.s. aggression has failed to arouse the Arab regimes, whose disputes with one another have become the mechanism serving their continuation in power, the objective they place above everything else. Therefore, it is not unlikely that the present attitude of these regimes would destroy the Arab summit institution itself.

Soviet Delegation Arrives for Cooperation Talks

JN111946 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1852 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Baghdad, 11 May (INA) — A technical Soviet delegation arrived in Baghdad today to attend the meetings of the permanent Iraqi-Soviet joint committee for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation led by Mr Toplov, deputy minister of the USSR Petroleum Ministry.

The committee deputy chairmen will meet and discuss the various aspects of the economic, commercial, and technical relations to prepare for the meeting of the committee chairmen in Baghdad on 19 May.

The Soviet delegation includes a number of deputy ministers, senior officials, and experts in the field of cooperation between the two friendly countries.

The delegation was received by 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim al-Jalbi, Oil Ministry under secretary and deputy chairman of the Iraqi side on the joint committee, a number of heads of the committee's subcommittees, and the Soviet ambassador in Baghdad.

Preparatory Meetings Begin

JN121225 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1035 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Baghdad, 12 May (INA) — Preparatory meetings for the 16th session of the Iraqi-Soviet joint committee for economic, scientific, trade, and technical cooperation began here today.

The Iraqi side to these meetings is led by 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim al-Jalbi, Oil Ministry under secretary; and the Soviet side by Mr Toplov, deputy minister of the USSR Petroleum Ministry. During the preparatory meetings, the topics on the agenda of the joint committee will be discussed by subcommittees specialized in the fields of trade, energy, irrigation, oil, industry, agriculture, fish wealth, scientific cooperation, and cadre training, to pave the way for the 16th session of the joint committee, which will begin 18 May.

In an exchange of speeches, 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim and (Kuilov) stressed the desire of Iraq and the USSR to expand relations of joint cooperation in various fields.

'Aziz on Need for Summit, Pan-Arab Security

JN122002 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1830 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Baghdad, 12 May (INA) — Iraq has again stressed the need for convening an Arab summit to discuss issues of concern to the Arab nation headed by the Iranian aggression against Iraqi territory.

Answering questions by members of the Arab and International Affairs Committee of the Iraqi National Assembly today, Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said that most of the Arab states share Iraq's views on convening an Arab summit conference. The deputy prime minister and foreign minister, who was speaking during the National Assembly's working session within its first term this year, said that the majority of Arab countries expressed the desire to convene an Arab summit to discuss a comprehensive agenda and that this desire was voiced at both the Arab League Council meeting in Tunis last March and the Arab foreign ministers conference in Fes.

He noted that these states feel that the blackmail by the Libyan and Syrian regimes is unacceptable and must be challenged. He said that the Arab foreign ministers agreed to hold another meeting after 'Id al-Fitr [around 7 June] to prepare for the coming Arab summit, which will discuss all issues.

Answering a question by an assembly member about pan-Arab security and its deterioration as a result of the failure to implement the Collective Arab Defense Pact, 'Aziz said that pan-Arab security is at the heart of Arab discussions and consultations within the Arab League, adding that the Arab League Charter and the defense pact were approved by all memebr states.

'Aziz pointed out that, in the past, complaints about the defense pact centered on the Arab states' failure to implement it on a level commensurate with the threats facing the Arab nation. It was argued that the pact was ineffective in confronting Zionism. Any Arab state facing aggression should have expected Arab economic and political support. This took place all the time on various levels and in numerous forms.

However, since the mid 1970's certain phenomena appeared which had not existed before, the first of which was the Syrian forces' entry into Lebanon. These phenomena are now threatening the pillars of pan-Arab security. Following this, in 1978 Israel attacked Lebanon and the Arab reaction was not on the level of the grave situation which had been precipitated. The reason was the confusion resulting from Syria's entry into Lebanon. [Words indistinct] in 1982 when the Zionist army reached Beirut. The confusion which took place as a result of the Iranian aggression against Iraq undermined the bases of pan-Arab security despite the fact that Iraq repeatedly warned against the seriousness of the situation and the consequences of Arab fragmentation. 'Aziz expressed optimism about the growing concern over the importance of pan-Arab security, noting that everyone talks about its importance, but serious efforts are required to reach a unified position.

Answering a question about the Lebanese crisis, 'Aziz said that the Lebanese events are the result of interference by outside elements which hinder any move to solve the problem using the weapons of sectarianism, division, and sabotage. He said that the Lebanese situation is part of the Arab reality and cannot be remedied unless Arab conditions are tackled.

Commander Says War Enters Into New Stage

GF121218 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 11 May 86 p 4

[By Iyad al-Badri]

[Text] The Iraqi-Iran war has entered a new stage with the recent declaration of Iraq's President, Saddam Husayn, that the Iraqi forces would chase Iranian soldiers anywhere inside or outside the battle fronts, including the Iranian territories.

This was particularly true when Iraq's Fourth Corps occupied an area of 270 sq kms inside the Iranian territories. This area includes Shaykh Hawi, Khabbana Valley, Shakha and a strategic road. The Al-Siyasah correspondent in the area toured the newly-liberated places and interviewed the commander of the Fourth Corps, Major General Thabit Sultan Ahmad.

The commander said the area was liberated after launching five decisive attacks during April, with the last massive one on April 30.

He said the main aim of those attacks was to push the Iranian forces back and occupy new Iranian land in implementation of the new Iraqi military strategy as long as Iranian forces were occupying Iraqi territory in the Al-Faw area.

He said that Iraqi forces would destroy the Iranian forces anywhere possible inside Iranian territory. He said the massive attack by the Iraqi forces was also a reply to Iranian claims that, after the Al-Faw battles, Iraqi forces could not launch any attack or cross the borders.

Maj-Gen Thabit said the new Iraqi strategy was to remain in any Iranian territory taken. In addition, the Iraqi forces would not stop at this, and there would be surprises on this and other fronts. He said that about 270 sq kms of new Iranian land had now been occupied.

Comparing this with the occupation of Al-Faw by Iran, he said the Al-Faw area would be restored in Iraq's own way according to accurate calculations determined by the military command and which could not be disclosed now.

He said that any battle that took place anywhere on the front would have its effect on Al-Faw. He said that everyone knew that the main weight of the Iranian Army was concentrated at Al-Faw, but now, after the occupation by Iraqi forces of new Iranian territories, the balance of the Iranian forces would certainly be shaken.

He stressed that the Iraqi military operations had a great effect on the Iranian forces because they were compelled to move from one place to another continuously.

The commander said the Iranian forces launched a major attack on the Iraqi forces on May 2, but the attacking forces were crushed completely and prevented from advancing even a meter. He said the area was particularly suitable for the use of equipment and tanks in which the Iraqi forces had clear supremacy. He said the area included very important oil fields in addition to important Iranian oil installations.

Following the successful Iraqi attacks, the Iranian forces were suffering from divisions' and differences of opinion between the regular Army and the so-called Revolutionary Guards.

In addition, the morale of the Iranians had fallen considerably, and Iraq was confident for these reasons, even if the war dragged on. He said that the longer the war, the more divisions occurred among the Iranians.

On the other hand, the morale of the Iraqi forces was good. The last attack was a clear example of this, he said with 16 Iranian divisions and several brigades completely destroyed.

Maj Gen Thabit said the military map had changed in the area after the Iraqi attack because the Iraqi forces were now facing many Iranian cities, including Dezful, Huwayzah, Susangerd, and Dahalran.

Commander on Offensive

JN121155 Baghdad INA in English 1122 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Baghdad, May 12, INA — An Iraqi military commander stressed that the blessed-Ramadan operation, which had been executed by the Iraqi Army 4th Corps forces on the 9th of this month was an abortive [as received] one as the enemy had been preparing for a fresh offensive on Iraq's territories.

Commander of the 4th Corps, Major-General Thabit Sultan Ahmad said, in statements published here today, that the blessed- Ramadan operation, during which Iraqi forces managed to occupy 100 square kms of Iranian territories, was aimed as well at destroying the enemy troops massed opposite east of Maysan sector, then advancing to capture new targets of tactical importance for Iraqi military operations.

Major-General Ahmad mentioned that that operation had fully achieved its aspired goals and purposes, addding that the situation "is now settled in favour of Iraqi forces."

The commander explained that the occupation of 100 square kms of tactically and logistically important areas deep inside the enemy's territories was not the only goal realized by the recent operation, for the forces of the Iraqi Army 4th Corps, the commander added, had gone beyond that to destroy around 75 per cent of the Iranian 16th Armour Division, the bulk of the 58th Division, a Khomeyni Guards brigade, regiments of Khomeyni guards and gendarme and the 82nd Division and forces supporting it.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

Iranian F-4 Shot Down 13 May

JN131218 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] Baghdad, 13 May (INA) — The Iraqi air defenses shot down an Iranian F-4 plane at 1349 [0949 GMT] today.

A military spokesman told INA that two Iranian planes tried to penetrate the international border in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan and that the air defenses managed to shoot down one of them.

It was seen crashing ablaze in Iranian territory opposite the Iraqi units while the other one fled.

Further on Iranian Attacks Repulsed

JN121949 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1930 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Baghdad, 12 May (INA) — Iraqi forces annihilated an Iranian infantry brigade and a great number of Khomeyni Guards in the IV Army Corps sector yesterday and today when Iranian forces attempted to attack the Iraqi forces in two offensives. Speaking to INA tonight, an Iraqi military spokesman said that the Iranian forces also lost six tanks, five 106-mm guns, one tubular launcher, two armored personnel carriers, and nine vehicles of various types.

The spokesman noted that the Iranian forces this morning tried to again advance on our positions in the same sector with an infantry regiment supported by artillery and tanks. The Iraqi forces confronted the attacking force and wiped out most of it.

The Iraqi spokesman asserted that death awaits all those who want to try their bad luck by facing the Iraqi forces. The result of any attempt by the Iranians will be worse than the one preceding it.

1,584 Iranians Killed in Offensive

JN130822 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] Baghdad, 13 May (INA) — A military source told INA today that the Iranian enemy losses in the offensive launched by the IV Army Corps forces on the 9th of this month amounted to 1,584 dead. He added that as a result of this offensive, during which the Iraqi forces managed to occupy 100 square km of Iranian territory, the Iranian forces sustained material losses which included the destruction of 26 tanks, 2 armored personnel carriers, 17 vehicles, 8 106-mm guns, 21 ammunition dumps, 14 medium and heavy machingeguns, and 1 radio.

Communique No 2,223

JN121658 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1605 GMT 12 May 86

[Communique No 2,223 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 12 May 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Armed Forces' superiority over the tyrant enemy is increasing in all fields. Their morale is mounting and they are continuing to impose defeat on our enemies, who harbor ill will against our progress and who covet our land.

The following is a roundup of operations for last night and today:

1. Our powerful Air Force will remain a lofty symbol for our country, thanks to the efforts of our splendid pilots and their high efficiency and courage. Our pilots have been pursuing the enemy everywhere and at all times. The following are today's achievements:

1. At 0906 [0506 GMT] today, our pilots launched an attack against a large maritime target off the Iranian coast, scoring an accurate, effective hit.

B. At 1238 today, our planes raided Khark Island installations, hitting their targets and setting them ablaze.

After carrying out these two missions, our pilots returned to the homeland, protected by God.

2. The brave men of our helicopter gunships have continued their daring combat missions on enemy units at the front, inflicting massive losses in men and equipment. They flew 38 combat missions and returned safely to base, God be praised.

3. An enemy group attempted to advance on one of our units in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan, but our units engaged them with all types of weapons and forced the group to flee after suffering a number of casualties. Another group estimated at two infantry companies attempted to attack our units in the same sector, but our concerted, heavy fire destroyed the bulk of the enemy force and the rest fled, pursued by our artillery, tank, and mortar fire. Confirmed enemy losses amounted to 76 killed, others wounded, and 3 vehicles and 6 ammunition dumps destroyed.

Elsewhere in the same sector, four enemy men were killed and one armored personnel carrier was destroyed. It has also been confirmed that they enemy lost 239 dead, including a number of officers, in recent battles with another of our formations in the same sector, in addition to the losses mentioned in our Communique No 2,222 issued on 11 May 1986 in which we announced that the enemy lost 261 dead before one of our military formations.

4. In the VII Army Corps front, our units engaged enemy positions and engineering efforts and inflicted on them the following losses: three killed and others wounded, two excavators destroyed, three vehicles burned, five emplacements of various kinds destroyed, and one ammunition dump burned.

5. Three enemy men were killed and three boats, two infantry positions, and two rafts were destroyed in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris. One of our patrols in the same sector seized two Kalashnikov rifles and two small boats which were towed to our positions.

6. Four enemy men were killed and five emplacements of various kinds, one vehicle, and one observation post were destroyed in the II Army Corps central sector.

7. Six infantry positions, one observation post, and two ammunition dumps were destroyed and three enemy men were either killed or wounded in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

8. Escaping the inferno of the Khomeyniite clique, a number of Iranian civilians sought refuge with our units at the front and were safely evacuated to the rear.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 12 May 1986

Jordanian Minister Receives West Bank Personalities

JN121557 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Amman — Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin has stressed the government's interest in finding ways for reducing the kinfolk's suffering in the occupied territories and bolstering their steadfastness there.

This came when the minister met separately in the past 3 days with Hebron Mayor Mustafa al-Natshah, Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj, and Ya'bad Mayor Murawwih Ibrahim. During the meetings, discussion dealt with the situation prevailing in the occupied territories in general and the circumstances of municipalities and the obstacles impeding providing services to the kinfolk there in particular.

Dudin met with several heads of municipalities and rural councils and charity and cooperative societies in the occupied West Bank, as well as with a delegation from the Jerusalem municipality employees' committee. He acquainted them with the broad lines of the 5-year development plan for the occupied Arab territories and stressed that this plan was in accordance with His Majesty King Husayn's directives.

The delegations affirmed their adherence [irtibataha] to the homeland's leader who has not spared any effort for the sake of liberating the kinfolk and land from the yoke of occupation.

AL-RA'Y on Israel-West 'Coordination' Against Syria

JN110934 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 11 May 86 p 1

[Editorial: "The Clock Cannot Be Turned Back"]

[Text] Israel's threats against Syria escalated yesterday when Hayim Bar-lev stated that Israel will take revenge on Syria if it is confirmed that Syria is involved in the attempt to plant a bomb on an El Al plane at Heathrow Airport. Bar-Lev has thus joined Israeli war minister Rabin in clearing the way for the aggression being prepared by the Israeli military establishment against Syria.

At the same time, it is noted that there are some Western circles working to depict Syria as being involved in the attempt to place a bomb on the Israeli plane. Moreover, these circles did not hesitate to adopt arbitrary measures against a number of Syrian diplomats. By implication, the measures taken by these circles are providing the pretexts Israel needs to implement its aggressive scheme. It appears therefore that there is advance coordination between these sides and the Israeli military establishment and that a certian scenario exists whereby Western sides implement the political and diplomatic moves leaving Israel to implement the military move.

It should be recalled that this coordination constitutes a very serious indication. It is an extension of the coordination which preceded the U.S. attack on Libya and it also indicates a conspiracy against the Syrian military force, which is an important part of the Arab military force. The participation of Western fingers in this coordination is similar to some extent to the collusion which preceded the aggression against Egypt in 1956 but involving different parties and excluding France, and with different roles assigned to each party.

The scenario that is being prepared for an aggression against Syria is a challenge to the entire Arab nation and aims at subjugating it to Israeli-Western hegemony after the U.S. failure to subjugate the region to pure U.S. hegemony. It is certain that those partners will fail to achieve their objective because the hands of the clock cannot be turned back.

Daily Decries Tokyo Summit Statement on Terrorism

JN091155 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 9 May 86 pp 1, 17

[Editorial: "The United States Between the Temptation of Power and the Voice of Logic"]

[Text] President Reagan has managed to turn Tokyo's industrialized states' summit into a summit about international terrorism. The subject of terrorism dominated all other topics of discussion. Amid the crusade President Reagan is launching against terrorism and terrorists, other world problems disappeared or were about to disappear from the debate of this conference — problems which should have been the main concern of the conferees who represent the strongest and richest countries in the world.

The Tokyo summit did not pay sufficient attention to hunger, poverty, or the foreign debts which burden the majority of Third World countries. Nor did it pay enough attention to the trade imbalance, the drop in oil prices, or to the economic recession threatening many countries with unemployment, political unrest, and military coups. It seems as if these serious world problems should await the removal of the last terrorist from the last capital in the East and West before the big masters give them the required amount of care and concern.

While it is natural to admit that international terrorism has become an important world problem and that efforts should be joined to eradicate it, the Tokyo masters, who voiced their determination to ruthlessly fight terrorism, failed to define it and to determine reasons for it. We frequently said that it is important to link reasons to results concerning the subject of terrorism. Otherwise, military remedies, no matter how violent, will remain incapable of ending terrorism and will be perhaps the reason for its spread and for aggravating the danger.

Perhaps the worst thing in the Tokyo statement about terrorism is that the U.S. Administration thought the statement a victory for its viewpoint and a green light from its allies to continue using military power against those whom it describes as embracing terrorism.

Hence, we heard reports from Washington speaking of the possibility of using intercontinental missiles against Libya. Moreover, we heard threats to Syria made by the highest sources in the U.S. capital a few days ago. There has also been increasing talk about Israeli military concentrations opposite the Syrian Army in the Golan in preparation for a possible aggression that would be impossible for Washington not to be involved in.

This feverish escalation against Arab countries by the United States and its ally, Israel, on the pretext of combating terrorism does not only threaten to blow away the last thread of Arab-U.S. relations and does not only feed Arab rage, which would create an atmosphere for the expansion of violence against U.S. interests, but also may drag the two superpowers into a military confrontation in the Middle East — a confrontation which could have grave consequences for world peace and security.

Regrettably, the immense U.S. power has appeared in the past few months as an unbridled, primitive, and wild power . Any power if not prevented by wisdom from resorting to extremism and deviation will become an energy destroying itself and others. We can only call on the allies of the United States in Europe and Japan to work to correct the U.S.-Israeli wildness in the Middle East.

At the same time, we ask Arab countries to study and analyze this serious change in U.S. behavior toward Arabs and to draw conclusions and prepare for any possibility.

Press on Syrian Diplomats' Expulsion From UK

JN111140 [Editorial Report] Arabic dailies on 11 May 1986 carry on their front pages extensive reports on the expulsion of three Syrian diplomats from the United Kingdom. Under the headline: "Al- Shar' Denies Any Syrian Involvement in the Ebrlin Incident, the United Kingdom Deports Three Syrian Diplomats, and the Syrian Ambassador Says: We Have Offered Our Assistance..But !!"*SAWT AL-SHA'B* carries a London-detelined news agencies report on the expulsion of the three diplomats and a short report on Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar's statement denying involvement of the Syrian Embassy in Berlin in the explosion of Arab-German society building. On the three diplomats' expulsion, the report says: "The United Kingdom yesterday ordered three Syrian diplomats to leave the country within 7 days following the refusal by the Syrian Ambassador Lutfallah Haydar to waive diplomatic immunity after the British Government had claimed that they some connection with the Heathrow incident. The British Foreign Office summoned the Syrian ambassador and informed him that the three must leave the country. They are Zaki 'Awad, Ahmad 'Abd al-Latif, and Munir Muna. Syria denied any connection with the incident -- the aborted attempt to put a bomb on board an Israeli airliner in Heathrow Airport last month."

The *SAWT AL-SHA'B* report continues: "In a statement issued last Thursday, the Syrian Embassy in London said that Syria has become the target of a smear campaign to justify an Israeli military aggression against it. The Syrian statement said that the United Kingdom claimed that Syria is involved in specific terrorist activities in this country at a meeting with Ambassador Haydar on 1 May, during which it asked him to waive diplomatic immunity from the three attaches. The statement added that the Syrians had offered that the three be ques4ioned in the embassy but that the police decided not to accept this offer. A British Foreign Office statement said that the police decided that any questioning under these circumstances would not lead to any evidence that could be used in court and that this would not help in their investigations. Sources close to the British police claimed that the police are looking for possible direct or indirect links between the diplomats and the person accused of conspiring to blow up the El Al plane on 17 April."

After reviewing the case of Nizar al-Hindawi, the report in *SAWT AL-SHA'B* further says: "The United Kingdom expressed regret over the Syrian decision not to waive diplomatic immunity from its three diplomats. However, observers predict that the expulsion of the diplomats will lead to a dampening of relations with Syria and this will endanger any British efforts to attain peace in the region. The Syrian ambassador made a statement later saying that the United Kingdom had expressed hope that Syria would respond to the request to withdraw the diplomats, adding that a decision in this respect will be taken in Damascus. He added: We offered our assistance and cooperation to the British security authorities to help them determine the party responsible for the aborted attempt at Heathrow airport. He added that the Syrian Embassy has nothing to hide. He also said: We have no information about the activities of any person on British soil and we do not participate in these activities. He said that since the diplomats have not been accused of any violation and since the police only wanted them to assist the police the embassy did not consider it appropriate to waive diplomatic immunity from them. He described the three diplomats as officers or employees and rejected the inference that they are embassy guards."

Under the headline "The United Kingdom Deports Three Syrian Diplomats and Spain Expels the Libyan Charge d'Affaires" *AL-RA'Y* carries a London-datelined REUTER report dealing mainly with the expulsion of the Libyan charge d'affaires from Spain but the report begins with the issue of the three Syrian diplomats. The report says: The United Kingdom yesterday ordered three Syrian diplomats to leave the country after the Syrian Government refused to waive diplomatic immunity to enable British police to interrogate them on matters dealing with supposedly revolutionary activities." The REUTER report in *AL-RA'Y* then carries part of the statements made by the Syrian ambassador in London.

Under the headline "The Scenario of the Expected Aggression Against Syria, Damascus Says That the Threat To Use Force Will Not Make Us Deviate From Our Firm Stands, Bar-Lev Threatens To Carry Out a Retaliatory Strike, and the United Kingdom Deports Three Syrian Diplomats" *AL-DUSTUR* carries a news agencies report from world capitals on Israeli threats to Syria and the deportation of the Syrian diplomats. The *AL-DUSTUR* report begins as follows: The question of the expected aggression against Syria continues to be dealt with by Western and Middle East circles in a manner that sometimes implies that the aggression will inevitabley take place and at other times that it is merely a war of nerves and a test of intentions. While an Israeli minister has not ruled out the possibility of a retaliatory operation against Syria if its involvement in the attempt to blow up an Israeli plane in London airport is proved, the United Kingdom has ordered the deportation of three Syrian diplomats following Syria's refusal to have them questioned on the plane incident." The *AL-DUSTUR* report then carries an identical report to that carried by *SAWT AL-SHA'B* on the issue of the deportation of the three Syrian diplomats.

Poland Ready To Replace France or Senegal in UNIFIL

NC122107 Paris AFP in English 2055 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Beirut, May 12 (AFP) — Poland is ready to replace any country that wants to withdraw from the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), the Lebanese Foreign Ministry announced Monday. Ministry spokesman Samih Baba said Poland had signalled its readiness to cover for any country which wanted to pull its troops out, "notably Senegal and France." France, whose 1,500 men represent the biggest contingent, has recently said it is no longer prepared to look after the logistics side on its own.

The French ambassador in Lebanon, Christian Graeff, said last Tuesday that France "wanted UNIFIL countries to share the high risk the logistics operation represented." He added that the statement did not mean France was to abandon UNIFIL. Less than a month ago, on April 17, the French Government refused for the first time to accept an automatic six-month extension of the French presence in Lebanon, reducing the term to three months. It justified its action on grounds that automatic renewal of its peace-keeping presence did not accomplish the role for which UNIFIL was created. France has asked the UN Security Council to look at ways of revitalising the effectiveness of UNIFIL.

Israeli Convoys Reported Moving Toward Golan Heights

NC130536 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] People arriving from the occupied border strip have reported seeing Israeli convoys moving along the road via the Dan settlement and the southern edge of Mount Hermon toward the occupied Golan Heights during the past hours. These convoys consisted of numerous tanks, trailers, mobile field operation rooms, and mobile radar equipment.

Political, Security Situation Discussed in Damascus

NC130439 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0300 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] According to a report from Damascus, a meeting was heldin the Syrian capital yesterday attended by Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs; Walid Junblatt, minister of public works and tourism; Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam; General Hikmat al-Shihabi; and Major General 'Ali Duba. The participants discussed the various political and security aspects of the current Lebanese situation.

Socialists Kidnap SSNP Official at AUB Hospital

NC122136 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2115 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Fighting that erupted in the Verdun area yesterday afternoon [12 May] between the socialists and gunmen of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party [SSNP], which was precipitated by the killing of Progressive Socialist Party official Kamal Abu 'Ayshah, left Kamal Maddah, an SSNP official, wounded. The socialists stormed the American University Hospital and carted Maddah off to an unknown destination.

Health Ministry Worker, Companion Kidnapped in Beirut

NC130933 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0800 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] 'Abd al-Karim Muhammad Hashim, an employee of the Health Ministry, and his companion were kidnapped at 0900 today. They were intercepted by gunmen near the Druze community center. They were riding in a Volkswagen vehicle [words indistinct].

Karami Kidney Stone Operation Successful

NC121640 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1545 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] The kidney stone operation performed on Prime Minister Rashid Karami at the American University Hospital today was successful. A statement issued by the Cabinet's General Directorate for Public Relations indicated that Prime Minister Karami is now in perfect health. Many officials have visited the prime minister to congratulate him on his recovery.

Information Minister Meets Visiting USSR Official

JN121947 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Damascus — Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh this evening received Ivan Laptev, editor in chief of the Soviet newspaper *IZVESTIYA*, who is visiting the country at the invitation of *AL-THAWRAH* newspaper. The meeting was attended by Muhammad Khary al-Wadi, general manager of *AL-THAWRAH* newspaper; Khidr al-Sha'ar, director general of the radio and television corporation; and Pavel Davydov, press attache of the Soviet Embassy in Damascus.

The minister talked about the development of mass media in the country, especially in the wake of the glorious Corrective Movement, praising President Hafiz al-Asad's great concern for the mass media to play their role in building a society of progress and socialism, in explaining the Syrian people's just struggle, and in confronting the propaganda campaigns led by international imperialism against Syria's steadfastness and struggle.

The information minister also stressed that employees in the mass media consider themselves a combat group along with our heroes in the Army and Armed Forces in confronting the fierce onslaught by imperialism and Zionism against the Arab nation. He also explained Syria's firm, principled stand on current political issues, affirming our people's determination to continue sacrifices and struggle under President Hafiz al-Asad's wise and brave leadership in order to achieve victory and liberation.

On his part, Ivan Laptev expressed happiness over his current visit to Syria, affirming his desire to continue such meetings between media officials in both Syria and the Soviet Union to exchange expertise and discuss media issues. Talks also dealt with information cooperation between the two friendly countries and ways to develop it.

USSR Solidarity Official Meets Al-Sa'iqah Head

JN121451 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1352 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Damascus, 12 May (SANA) — (Olgar Slemanov), deputy chairman of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Countries, has denounced the U.S. threats against Syria which is courageously standing before the U.S.-Israeli onslaught. He also condemned the brutal U.S. aggression on the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

This came when Comrade 'Isam al-Qadi, secretary general of the Popular Liberation War Vanguard Organization — Al-Sa'iqah Forces, received the delegation of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Countries led by (Slemanov) this morning.

(Slemanov) reaffirmed the USSR's standing alongside the Palestinian Arab people who are struggling for their just rights. He praised the Al-Sa'iqah Forces' militant role in the Palestinian arena. At the end of his talk, (Slemanov) hailed Syria's steadfastness and its firm stand under struggler President Hafiz al-Asad and its stand in the first confrontation trench against all imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary conspiracies.

Comrade al-Qadi spoke at the beginning of the meeting. He lauded Syria's principled, firm stands under President al-Asad, who turned Syria into a bastion on which all the conspiracies and intrigues of the United States, Israel, and those who support them will founder. He praised the stands of the socialist bloc countries, headed by the friendly Soviet Union, toward the Palestine question and noted that the Soviet Union has extended and is extending support and backing to the Palestinian people for the sake of their just cause.

Comrade al-Qadi condemned the deviationist, traitorous course led by Yasir 'Arafat which seeks to liquidate the Palestine question. He explained that the differences in the Palestinian arena are political ones and that 'Arafat is responsible for them because he disavowed decisions of the Palestinian National Council, the Palestinian national charter, and PLO objectives.

Comrade al-Qadi concluded: We are struggling to regain PLO unity on bases hostile to imperialism and Zionism as well as to their schemes aimed at liquidating the Palestine question and imposing imperialist hegemony on the Arab region.

DPRK Official Makes Predeparture Statement

JN091238 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Damascus — The Korean Workers Party [KWP] delegation led by Cormade Yang Hyong-sop, Party Central Committee member and DPRK Supreme People's Assembly chairman, left Damascus this morning.

The delegation was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Comrade Sami 'Attari, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command member; Comrade Tawfiq Hassan, Ba'th Party Central Committee member and secretary of the party's Damascus University branch; a number of comrades from the National Command's Foreign Relations Bureau; and the DPRK ambassador in Damascus.

Before his departure, Comrade Yang made a statement to the SANA asserting that the DPRK delegation's visit to Syria has greatly contributed to bolstering and promoting relations of friendship between the people, parties, and governments of the two friendly countries.

He said he clearly became acquainted with the great accomplishments that the Syrian Arab people have achieved under the historic leadership of comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad.

Comrade Yang reaffirmed the support and soldiarity of the KWP and the DPRK people and Government with the just struggle Syria is waging against U.S. imperialism and world Zionism to regain usurped Arab lands and rights.

He added: During our talks with officials in Syria, we sensed Syria's complete support and backing for the DPRK people's struggle to unify the Korean homeland and for its independence, as well as for continuing the march of building socialism under the leader Kim Il-song.

Radio Commentaries on UK, Israeli Hostility

Palestinian Broadcast

JN121854 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 12 May 86

[Palestine broadcast: "Talk of the Return"]

[Text] Brother strugglers: Had it not been for Britain's traditional hostility to Arabs and our knowledge of this hostility, we would have said that Britain's behavior toward Syria is surprising. We are not surprised at all because British Prime Minister Mrs Thatcher thinks it is time for Britain to take revenge on the Arab masses which crushed the ugliest colonialism in the world, British colonialism, by taking revenge on the Syrian Arab Republic.

Britain's chatter about the case of Heathrow Airport in London, or more specifically about Britain's allegations of an attempt to destroy an Israeli El Al plane at Heathrow, deserves no attention. Britain has shown Syria much hostility since the vile, brutal, treacherous strike President Reagan delivered at Libya — a strike which turned into shame, scandal, and even military defeat for President Reagan.

Since that brutal U.S. air raid on Libya, Margaret Thatcher has announced that she will join President Reagan if he initiates aggression on Syria. Hence, the matter was decided even prior to the fabricated case of Heathrow and also prior to the events which took place or were said to have taken place in West Berlin. The issue is not then one of terrorism, even if one who talks about terrorism is a colonialist personality, such as Mrs Thatcher. Is there a terrorism more horrible than colonialist terrorism?

The issue is not one of alleged terrorism or one of alleged combat against alleged terrorism. The issue is one of precise military coordination among Britain, Israel, and the United States in launching aggression on the Arab nation, represented by Syria. We need no proof of this because as soon as Britain provoked Syria by deporting three Syrian diplomats, Israeli Minister Hayim Bar-Lev said Israel will begin aggression, or war, as he put it, against Syria.

It is unnecessary to tell those concerned in Israel that these Israeli threats do not intimidate or worry Syria. This does not mean that Syria is paying no attention to them, but it means that the elements for defending pan-Arab security are placed on maximum alert in Syria. It also means that if Israel attacks Syria, then it will not be pleased and will find something to aggravate its sorrow, expand Israel's graveyards, and bring the glorious memories of the October war back to Israel's weak memory.

Britain's behavior toward Syria is only a British cover for an Israeli aggression on Syria — an aggression which is likely to take place but will certainly be defeated.

On Israeli 'Terrorism'

JN121338 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 12 May 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] The enemy leaders' statements during the past 2 days give the impression that Israel has suddenly renounced the policy of threats and that it only seeks to live in peace and tranquility. However, despite these sugar-coated statements, the enemy leaders do not fail to assert that they will combat terrorism with all means available to them in cooperation with Washington and the West European states which were convinced by the U.S. pleas to fight the so-called Arab terrorism.

Thus, what seems to be a change in the language of threats of aggression is in fact a change in form and not substance, because if Israel were not harboring aggressive intentions, or implementing its policy of aggression and expansion to realize the Zionist project of establishing an Israeli entity extending from the Nile to the Euphrates, it would have implemented international resolutions urging it to withdraw from all occupied territory and would have recognized the Palestinian people's national rights.

Israel, described by a UN General Assembly resolution issued during its 40th session as a state which is not peace-loving, does not want peace because peace places on its shoulders certain responsibilities which are opposed to Israel's expansionist plans and which undermine U.S.-Israeli plans for controlling and dominating the region.

If we want to trace the roots of terrorism in our region from the beginning of this century, we will find that the Haganah, Stern, and Irgun gangs were the first to practice terrorism against the Arabs of Palestine before 1948. These gangs were the nucleus of the Israeli enemy army following the establishment of the Zionist entity in 1948 — an entity which practiced and still practices terrorism, aggression, and expansion; which challenged the United Nations and flouted its resolutions; and which is supported by the U.S. Security Council veto and Washington's unlimited aid.

If we recall the Dayr Yasin massacre and the hijacking of the Libyan civilian aircraft over Mediterranean waters, we conclude that terrorism is the core of Zionism, which manifested itself in the form of gangs before 1948 and later in the form of an entity. Zionist terrorism is responsible for all crimes committed against Arabs and for all acts of suppression, injustice, occupation, and genocide which have been rife in our region for decades. Zionist terrorism is responsible for the tension and the dangers threatening the Middle East and international peace and security in this sensitive part of the world.

Further Reportage on Tension With Syria

Knesset Committee Views News Reports

TA121518 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee has said that there is no parallel between the media reports on the situation along the Israeli-Syrian border and the briefing it heard this morning from military sources. The committee announced that it would constantly monitor developments along the northern border and will meet with the defense minister next week.

Likud faction chairperson Knesset Member [MK] Sara Doron told our correspondent Shalom Oren after the meeting that the reports that the belligerent acts are likely to happen are exaggerated. MK Menahem Hakohen said that we must refrain from panicking, just as much as we must not be indifferent. Yosi Sarid said that the government must examine the development of what he called the fabricated crisis.

Activity in Lebanon 'Confirmed'

TA121920 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Army sources in Israel confirmed today that the Syrian Army has in recent months built dugouts for tanks in Lebanon, south of the line on which the Syrians are deployed in the eastern sector. The Syrian forces themselves have not changed their deployment since the IDF's exit from Lebanon. Our army affairs correspondent Moshe Shlonsky reports from the studio:

Over the last few months the Syrians in the eastern sector in Lebanon have prepared dugouts for tanks and cannons south of the line where they are currently deployed. It should be emphasized that reference is to dugouts only. The Syrians, at this stage, take care not to deploy their forces south of the area which the IDF had occupied in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' on the eve of the withdrawal. The dugouts are not manned by Syrian forces. The Syrians probably intend to reach the region which they had occupied on the eve of the Lebanese war. A short look at the map here will make it clear that the Syrians are getting very close to the security zone in the eastern sector, when and if they move forces southward, of course.

The land preparations carry a defensive meaning, mainly to prevent an Israeli attempt at a strike in the Lebanese Al-Biqa', or an attack on Syria on its flank. There is here of course a very convenient potential for an offensive initiative; very large armored forces can arrive at the built dugouts within hours.

Israel takes a very grave view of the Syrian fortifications; a message in this spirit was passed on to the Americans. The message was also transmitted to President al-Asad, but has not yet borne fruit. The Americans themselves view the Syrian entrenchment as a defensive move which has nothing to do with the tension which has come to prevail in Israeli-Syrian relations lately.

Editorials Examine Peres Remarks

TA110948 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 11 May 86

[Review of midday press editorials]

[Text] *MA'ARIV* writes that many things are unclear in connection with tension with Syria. In the labyrinth of all the talk and conflicting reports, it is difficult to determine whether this tension is real or imagined, or who works to stir it up. Judging by the prime minister's remarks, this tension is merely verbal and there is no actual proof of belligerent moves on the part of Syria. All the political and military bodies are called upon to exercise restraint to calm down the atmosphere while simultaneously maintaining intelligence alertness.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT believes that the prime minister did well in hurrying to curb the rising tide and declare that we have no intention of attacking Syria. Yet Syria must also know that we are aware of the fact that its army is busy preparing dugouts and is carrying out fortification work in the southern part of the Lebanese Al-Biqa'. This requires maximum alertness, but we have no desire to convert this into saber-rattling.

HADASHOT also welcomes the prime minister's statement that Israel is not heading toward war. This clarification can serve to calm spirits, but it still leaves the military option available, if necessary.

Herzog Opposes 'Interference' in Austrian Elections

TA111720 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 11 May 86

[Excerpt] President Hayim Herzog said it is impossible to prove the allegations against Kurt Waldheim without the assistance of the Greek, Yugoslav, and Soviet Governments. Herzog believes we should receive information from these states before we decide to launch a campaign, the results of which are totally unforeseeable.

President Herzog does not believe that interference in the Austrian election campaign would serve the interest of those people who interfere. Our correspondent Haviva Roger reports that the president made these remarks during a visit in Or 'Aqiva.

Shamir Discusses Waldheim, Poland, Tension With Syria

TA121223 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 12 May 86

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer]

[Text] Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has returned from a visit to several Latin American countries filled with courage, and his answers to questions posed by political correspondents a short while ago are evidence of the fact that he has returned from this trip refreshed. Shamir met with political correspondents, and the first question he was asked, on the Kurt Waldheim affair, was whether he should have refrained from speaking out so strongly against Waldheim. This

is in light of the positions voiced recently by the Israeli ambassador in Austria, for example, to the effect that Israel has been embroiled by the World Jewish Congress. Not only did Minister Shamir not retract his remarks, he also said that his opinion is what counts in the Foreign Ministry and that there is no room here for wavering. He again stated that the election of Kurt Waldheim as Austria's president would be a disaster, and it would be a way to exonerate people who participated in Nazi acts. It would pose a dangerous precedent, he said, adding that all the people he met during his visit abroad displayed sympathy with this position which is the State of Israel's position. The government has not held a discussion on what will happen if Kurt Waldheim is elected president of Austria, but the position is very firm.

Another question referred to the earlier report on the agreement reached between Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Minister 'Ezer Weizman to the effect that following the rotation, Minister Weizman will be appointed a minister in the Foreign Ministry. Shamir reacted by saying: I heard this piece of wisdom on the Voice of Israel this morning; if 'Ezer Weizman protects Israel's interest in the same way that Butrus Ghali protects those of Egypt in his ministry, then I do not care if Minister Weizman sits in the Foreign Ministery. But, he added seriously, one must check whether this falls within the coalition agreement.

Another matter which was raised during the meeting was the expected appointments of a new Bank of Israel governor and attorney general. On this Minister Shamir said two surprising things: The time has come to reduce the attorney general's authority, and proposals on this should be examined. As for the appointments themselves, he opposes the possibility of political deals in this matter. He is against political figures fulfilling these positions; the appointments should be filled by professionals, people who are not identified with one party or another. When he was pressured and asked whether he also objects to the appointment of a Knesset member — and the allusion was to MK Adi Amoray — he said we will object to the appointment of any political personality who is identified with a party or who was active in a party, and therefore professionals must be appointed.

Shamir was asked about ties with Poland and the possibility of Israel and Poland establishing interest offices. He replied that this will be implemented soon.

As for relations with Egypt, he said that the talks between the Israeli and Egyptian delegations on the Tabah arbitral compromis will resume next week. He added that Israel had reached the limit of its flexibility, and therefore the time has come for Egypt to soften its stand.

There were also other questions as to whether he knew anything about secret contacts with Jordan. He replied that if such contacts are held, he knows about them and he is briefed on them by the prime minister.

In general, all Shamir's remarks were totally unambiguous.

Finally, he was asked about the tension and verbal escalation with Syria. He said that at the moment Israel is not interested in a war with Syria. Official state analysts also believe that Syria is not interested in war, and thus the reports in the media should be toned down.

Ethiopia Sends Message on Improving Ties With Egypt

TA120627 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] The United States thinks the reports about the intention to settle immigrants from Ethiopia in the territories make it difficult to continue with the operations to rescue the Jews who have remained in Ethiopia. Our political correspondent has learned that U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy said this to Knesset Member Ora Namir at a meeting between the two in Washington.

In this context, our correspondent has learned that the Ethiopian rulers have sent messages to Israel through diplomatic channels stressing their demand that Israel not attempt to improve relations with Egypt at the expense of Ethiopian interests, reference being to the Dayr al-Sultan monastery.

Syrian 'Terrorists' Caught in Lebanon Sentenced

TA120936 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
12 May 86 p 4

[Text] Ten Syrians between the ages of 16 and 30 were sentenced to 6 years in prison, half as a suspended sentence, after being convicted of belonging to Ahmad Jibril's PFLP-GC. The 10 were also found guilty of conducting military exercises and carrying weapons.

The members of the terrorist gang were arrested in December 1985 in southern Lebanon. They were caught unawares by IDF soldiers in the security zone. A short battle ensued during which 3 of their colleagues were killed; the 10 terrorists surrendered. Among the gang members are two officers and a young Moroccan who is married to a Syrian and lives in Syria.

The defendants' attorneys, Walid Fahum and Mahmud Na'mani, requested that the court order the explulsion of the gang members from Israel, but their request was turned down.

Herzog Commutes Underground Prisoners' Sentences

TA130535 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0505 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] President Hayim Herzog has commuted the sentences of two more members of the Jewish terror underground. Gil'ad Pel'i and Yehoshu'a Ben-Shoshan are to be released from prison today. They had 1 year to serve of their sentences; the president commuted it to a suspended sentence for a period of 2 years. The Prison Services spokesman says the behavior of the underground convicts has been exemplary and no complaints have been registered against them. Seven remain in prison, three serving life terms.

Pro-Syrian Activities on Golan Heights Overlooked

TA111319 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 11 May 86 p 19

[Report by Yehuda Tzur]

[Text] Over the weekend the Syrian flag was again hoisted on the rooftop of the local school in Majdal Shams, as part of the celebrations marking Syria's independence.

Since the police and security forces prevented the staging of rallies to mark the anniversary of Syria's independence approximately 3 weeks ago, Syrian flags have been hoisted several times in Druze villages on the Golan and so far no one has been detained for this.

Israel supporters among the Golan Druze are complaining that the security establishment is not doing enough to eradicate the phenomenon and prevent what they call the taking over of the Druze villages on the Golan by Syrian supporters.

Those same sources claim that despite the fact that many dozens of people have violated police orders and shouted pro-Syrian and anti-Israel proclamations, no one has been detained. They add that many walls in Majdal Shams are painted with anti-Israel slogans, and no one is paying any attention.

This week two delegations of students from universities in Samaria visited Majdal Shams to express solidarity with the Druze struggle for their return to Syria. The guests and hosts met in the Majdal Shams student club where they sang nationalist songs and made speeches supporting the handing over of the Golan to Syria and the end of the Israeli occupation on the Golan Heights.

State Comptroller Reports on West Bank, IDF

Council Funds Political Activities

TA130710 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 13 May 86 pp 1, 11

[Report by Joshua Brilliant]

[Text] The Interior Ministry has been effectively funding the political activities of West Bank settlers through the general-purpose funds it provides to the Qiryat Arba' local council, the State Comptroller said in his report this week on the Civil Administration of the territories.

The comptroller found that Qiryat Arba' spent thousands of dollars in 1983 and 1984 to fund demonstrations, legal protection for settlers and spying on West Bank Arabs and their Israeli sympathizers.

"Every year the Interior Ministry approves a grant to the council to balance its budget," the comptroller noted, and the grant generally provides the bulk of council funds. In 1983, ministry subventions accounted for IS 106,000 of Qiryat Arba's IS 164,000 budget; in 1984, it made up IS 508,000 of the community's IS 874,000 budget.

The council has provided a satisfactory level of educational, health, security and other services, although it dumped its garbage in an unfenced area close to Arab homes, the comptroller said.

The council also paid considerable sums to further the settlers' political goals.

It allocated $10,000 to a Jerusalem lawyer to act on behalf of residents accused of crimes with a "political background," such as vandalizing Arab property in Halhul. It also contributed IS 250,000 to the council of Jewish settlements in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza for legal assistance to residents detained after "reacting" to Arab attacks.

Rabbi Moshe Levinger's long-running one-man demonstration outside the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp south of Bethlehem was aided by a $5,000 council allocation partly designed to publicize his action. This money was allocated over and above other assistance, such as a rented car, food and other services.

The council paid $750 to a private investigating firm to collect information on Bi'r Zayt university near Ramallah and on a committee that supports it. Some of the committee's members are Israeli citizens, the comptroller noted.

Other expenditures included an outlay of IS 600,000 for 30 mattresses for women holding a sit-in in Jerusalem to press for the release of the Jewish terrorists. One month earlier, in June 1985, the council paid for buses to bring demonstrators to Jerusalem to protest against the release of Arab terrorists.

When the authorities found that the employees of the Qiruat Arba' local council owed IS 1.4 million in back taxes, they ordered the council to deduct the tax from the employee's pay cheques. The council did, but also voted to increase the workers pay and did not charge them for the back payments made on their behalf to the income-tax authorities.

Arabs, too, benefited from the lax attitude towards collecting taxes. The income-tax authorities demanded that residents submit tax returns, but only 20 per cent of those approached in the Nabulus area did so, and even fewer in Ramallah. The comptroller found that only "a few hundred people" actually submit returns. In general, however, revenues have increased, he said.

Vocational schools suffered from overcrowding, with classes numbering 50 to 60 pupils, the comptroller found. There are only three vocational schools in the territories, and they do not meet demands. Government supervision of those schools has also been unsatisfactory.

IDF Shortcomings

TA130952 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 13 May 86 p 6

[Report by Avi Hoffman]

[Text] The state comptroller cast a wide-ranging look at all aspects of the Israel Defence Forces' activities, but, for security

reasons, not all the findings were made public and some that were were left deliberately vague.

Among his findings were the poor state of the buildings used by the IDF, the absence of a master plan for the Air Force's expensive computer system, and a lack of clear policy guidelines at the IDF Command and Staff College. There has been considerable delay in the introduction of two advanced fighting craft in the Navy, while another, unspecified, weapon system had suffered from poor servicing and inadequate planning, the comptroller said.

The deployment on the northern border following the withdrawal from Lebanon experienced difficulties mainly resulting from poor supervision. Despite this, the IDF pullback was carried out ahead of schedule. The comptroller advised against using emergency fuel stocks for any purpose apart from genuine emergencies.

The comptroller went back for a follow-up check of sectors he examined previously. He found that the IDF was continuing efforts to broaden professional possibilities for women, but there was still no overall plan for this purpose.

A division that the comptroller visited for his previous report had rectified some shortcomings in the year, but there was no improvement in the professional qualifications of the officers. The commander, artillery and maintenance officers, their deputies and two deputy brigade commanders had not undergone battalion commanders course, nor had five deputy battalion commanders and 32 company commanders completed company commanders course.

What follows are some of the state comptroller's findings in more details:

Deployment on the Lebanese Border

The comptroller — looking into the IDF's deployment on the northern border between May and December 1985, after the withdrawal from Lebanon — found that inadequate supervision and coordination by the IDF led to delays by the contractors employed in strengthening the northern fortifications. This resulted in additional expenses.

The work was hampered by incomplete engineering plans, tardy evacuation of buildings and sites occupied by soldiers, inadequate security measures for workers and failure to clear minefields. Sanitary conditions in the fortifications were poor, and equipment was found to be missing.

The comptroller noted, however, that the evacuation of the Israeli forces was completed ahead of schedule. In fact, by the middle of May, last year, the forces were deployed on the international boundary rather than in July or August as had been planned. The uncertainty of the extent of hostile action necessitated speedy redeployment and this required especially good supervision and coordination. According to the comptroller, a supervisory body composed of senior representatives of the commands involved in the project should have been set up in the field and granted wide powers. This was not done, however, resulting in disruptions.

The comptroller recommended that the IDF tighten supervision of field units so as to prevent similar failures in the future.

Introduction of a Weapon System

The prototype of a specialized weapon system put into operation in 1982 encountered difficulties when used in training.

The problems resulted from a low level of technical reliability, which in turn was due partially because the system was a prototype and partially because of the accelerated wear and tear resulting from its operational testing and use in the Lebanon War. In addition, the upkeep of the system, which was based on service by the manufacturer and partly by the IDF maintenance service, was adversely affected by budgetary problems and other considerations.

The introduction of the prototype into unit training was hampered mainly because of technical faults and because of faulty planning of training programmes and their implementation. Operators of the system were not trained in a field needed to operate the system. The development of a simulator, intended to help train operators, dragged for many years and had not yet been completed.

Deficiencies had been found in regular preventative maintenance while calibration checks needed for the efficient operation of the system were not carried out at the required times.

No provision had been made to ensure that soldiers who may have been exposed to radiation from the system at a level that could have endangered their health were sent for medical examination in time.

Some of the people handling the system were found to lack the required security clearances, and the system was not housed according to field security instructions.

Naval Acquisitions

The Navy acquired two boats of a special type capable of skimming the surface of the sea at great speed and in heavy weather conditions, which cost a total of $100 million. But the comptroller found that the assimilation of the first vessel, purchased from its American manufacturer in April 1983, was subject to various problems that delayed its becoming operational.

The second vessel, built under licence by Israel Shipyards in Haifa, was delivered to the Navy in July 1985, several years behind deadline.

The comptroller found that the operational and maintenance teams were undermanned. The crafts' crew were overloaded with work, being simultaneously responsible for operational, training and maintenance duties. The crew of the first vessel had not been trained as planned.

Serious delays had occurred in the development, manufacture and installation of certain systems for the boats. Spare parts were inadequate and expensive parts and equipment that broke down were not repaired quickly enough.

The IDF Command and Staff College

The General Staff has not formulated clear policy guidelines nor defined the place of the IDF Command and Staff College in the training and advancement of officers, the comptroller found. Because of this, the impact of the college on the training of command and staff officers was less than it could be.

The lack of a clear definition of which categories of officers should be required to study at the college, and the difficulties of filling the quotas set for field units, meant that the college was underutilized. Officers that needed the college were not sent, while those whose participation in the courses was not essential were.

The comptroller stressed the necessity of speedily completing the ongoing re-evaluation of the objectives of the college's programme of studies. Decisions on the future role of the college, based on the evaluation, should be implemented without delay, the comptroller concluded.

Computerization of Administrative Systems in the Air Force

The Air Force has no master plan for computerization of administrative systems, the comptroller found. Consequently, many systems whose development entailed considerable expense had not met the objectives for which they had been set up. The comptroller recommended that the Air Force establish policy and principles for a computerized administrative network and prepare a long-range plan.

The Air Force also must ensure that proper work procedures were instituted between headquarters, the computer unit and its users to ensure conformity and efficiency in planning, development and use of new systems.

In general, the computer unit provided its services to users in a satisfactory fashion, the comptroller said. However, shortcomings were uncovered in operational and supervisory procedures.

Building Maintenance

In most of the sites he inspected, the comptroller found the condition of buildings, especially old ones, to be in poor condition and improperly maintained.

There was no master plan for periodic maintenance of the buildings, which cover 4.5 million square metres of space, not including Air Force and Navy structures. In the absence of a detailed survey and data on the structures there was no way the IDF could base an annual maintenance programme on the proper priorities, the comptroller added.

Standing orders require that buildings be inspected annually. However, such checks had not been carried out for years, the comptroller reported, adding that in the army camps he visited, buildings had wide cracks in the ceilings, leaky roofs and faulty sewage and plumbing.

Because of budget cuts, the construction units have been unable to overcome escalating maintenance problems.

If this situation continued, the comptroller warned, speedy deterioration of even new buildings could expected. In view of the cutbacks in new construction, the comptroller adivsed that activities designed to maintain existing structures should not be curtailed, but rather enhanced.

Nazareth Resident Stabbed in Janin, Curfew Ordered

TA101425 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] An Arab from Nazareth was stabbed in the neck in Janin a short time ago. He was evacuated to the 'Afula Hospital, and his condition is moderate. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports the security forces imposed a curfew on the town.

Curfew Confined to Stabbing Site

TA110559 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] The curfew in Janin has been confined to the site of the stabbing of (Taysir Ahmad Wakid) from the village of ('Ayut) near Nazareth. Our correspondent Arye Gus has learned that the police are also examining the possibility that the cause of the stabbing was a vendetta between the victim's family and another. Our correspondent adds that the assailant stabbed another Israeli citizen while fleeing.

ALGERIA

Daily on 'No Justification' for Summit Postponement

PM121307 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 4 May 86 p 1

[APS article: "After the Postponement of the Extraordinary Arab Summit"]

[Text] The postponement of the Arab summit scheduled to be held in Fes as a result of failure to agree on the agenda for that meeting illustrates once again the patent inability of those who are responsible for the fate of the Arab nation to face adversity and the almost constant aggression suffered by most Arab countries at both a political and economic level.

While we can already say that this postponement will have serious consequences for the future of the Arab nation, pushed into defensive and almost suicidal positions, it should be stressed above all that there is no justification for postponing an extraordinary Arab summit. This certainly cannot be justified by agenda or timetable questions which are, after all, secondary.

At a time when it is more urgent than ever to overcome the disagreements which are tearing the Arab nation apart, at a time when imperialism — the Arab peoples' common enemy — is increasing in ferocity and launching shameless military attacks, on specious pretexts, against those among us who make the mistake of not fitting into its policy or strategy of domination, we are presenting the sorry spectacle of division for wretched and base motives.

This certainly gives us a heavy burden of responsibility in the eyes of history and of the Arab people's masses in the Maghreb and Mashrek who spontaneously expressed their anger after the aggressions perpetrated against the Palestinian people and fraternal Tunisia in the past, and against the fraternal Libyan people today.

Although all the objective conditions exist for the Arab nation to rally and pool its formidable potential to really face up to the destructive intentions of those who have constantly tried "to keep it under top surveillance" (to cite an Arab colleague), some of us are still using the false excuses which have meant that it has been virtually impossible to hold an Arab summit since 1982.

This is a particularly grave time, because in addition to their inability to unite, the Arab countries are incapable of consulting each other, of jointly adopting the most appropriate measures and the only response which can make those who are attacking them with impunity stop and think. In addition to aiding the aggressor's belligerent positions, this extremely negative attitude really endangers our nation's future. Eventually it is likely not only to permanently jeopardize the security and stability of all Arab countries, but also and above all to deal a fatal blow to our own cultural values.

Algeria, for its part, is more aware than ever of the dangers threatening the Arab nation and the plots being hatched against it, and has constantly worked and will constantly work to smooth out the temporary disagreements which unfortunately perpetuate the division of the Arab nation, exposing it to aggression and domination.

LIBYA

Israeli Pilots Said To Have Taken Part in U.S. Raid

LD130801 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0745 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] Tripoli, 13 May (JANA) — It has been disclosed that five Zionist pilots took part in the 15 April NATO-U.S. raid on the Great Jamahiriyah. This was divulged in a statement by the chief of staff of the Israeli Air Force.

Political Editor Comments on Expulsion of Diplomats

LD130854 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0740 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] Tripoli, 13 May (JANA) — Commenting on the decision by the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison to expel 36 diplomats of the Embassies of Italy, West Germany, France, the Netherlands, Spain, Belgium and Denmark in the Jamahiriyah, the JANA political editor says: This measure was taken in accordance of the principle of reciprocal treatment, and was in response to the arbitrary measures adopted by the European countries against a number of members of the Libyan Arab People's Bureaus in Western Europe under pressure from the U.S. Administration.

The JANA political editor affirmed that had there been any real justification for the West European countries' decision to deport members of the People's Bureaus of the Great Jamahiriyah, we would not have applied the principle of reciprocal treatment. But there was no justification for deporting our brothers.

We have said and continue to say, he added, that these brothers had no connection whatsoever with terrorism; the allegations and claims reiterated by the official circles and information media in the West about Libya's connection with terrorism are unfounded, as we have affirmed repeatedly.

terrorism are unfounded, Western countries that adopted these arbitrary measures against a number of members of the People's Bureaus in Europe to provide a single proof of Libya's involvement in terrorism.

Italy 'On Maximum Alert' Over Al-Qadhdhafi Threats

LD130839 Tripoli JANA in English 0810 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] Rome, Ramadan 5, May 13, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The official Italian radio station said yesterday that the threats of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to Italy caused the Italian security service on maximum alert and tight security were imposed on airports, ports, aeroplanes and diplomatic buildings all over Italy.

The radio added that tight security checks were made on persons entering Italy from Middle Eastern countries.

Statements by Italy's Craxi Termed 'Irresponsible'

LD121818 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 12 May 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi, speaking in Genoa, criticized the threat made by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi to hit Italy if the latter showed hostility toward Libya. He said that the reaction of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi is an example of an extremist point of view and of anger which goes far beyond the bounds of responsibility. He added that his country wants to avoid an esclation of tension, but Colonel al-Qadhdhafi is taking an intransigent line instead of remaining as calm as the situation required. He added that Libya knows how many friends Italy has in the Western world who would enter the war on its side, and also some Arab states. Craxi said: We answer the threat with an urgent call for initiatives, which include basic solutions, for the sake of peaceful coexistence.

JANA's international affairs editor, commenting on the Italian prime minister's statements stressed that the statements are of an irresponsible nature. We would not rule out that Craxi made the statements under U.S. pressure and because of his fear of U.S. terrorism.

We find such statements by the Italian prime minister to be strange, as he threatens Libya should Libya embark on any legitimate defensive action if it ever becomes exposed to aggression from U.S. bases in Italy. We do not oppose or debate the issue of Craxi's defense of the presence of U.S. bases in his country, but in the event of these bases being used in committing aggression against our soil it is our right to retaliate in the same manner against the territories from which the aggression emanated. We would like to stress on this occasion that the intruders in the Mediterranean are the Americans and Zionists — enemies of the Arab nation and enemies of the peoples of the area which aspires to freedom. We want the Mediterranean to be an area of peace and security and an area free of foreign fleets.

Italy's Defense Minister Questioned on Armed Cells

LD121234 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1155 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Tripoli, 12 May (JANA) — The Italian Defense Minister, Giovanni Spadolini, has admitted that during the period of 1981-83, his government discovered armed party cells which posed a serious threat to the Italian Republic.

Speaking at a Republican Party rally the day before yesterday at (Lecce) in southern Italy, Spadolini said that the might of right and freedom must be enforced and that they should prevail over all forms of extremism.

The urgent question we wish to put to the Italian minister now is: Is the Jamahiriyah also connected with any of the cells of the armed party which the Italian Government discovered at that time? As to the enforcement of the call for right and justice and the need for them to take supremacy over all forms of extremism, the Great Jamahiriyah has repeatedly affirmed these principles and they are the principles it urges the worlds' peoples to uphold because it is the state of the masses [as received] and it seeks freedom for all world peoples.

MOROCCO

King Hassan II Receives Guinea's President Conte

LD122312 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 12 May 86

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Hassan II, may God grant him victory, received General Lansana Conte, the president of the Republic of Guinea, at the royal court in Rabat this evening. The talks between his majesty the king and the president were held in private. Afterward his majesty the king and his respected guest chaired a working-session with the Moroccan and the Guinean ministerial delegations.

The president of the Guinean Republic had arrived earlier this evening in our country on a working and friendly visit to Morocco that will last 3 days. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Sidi Mohammed and Her Royal Highness Princess Lala Hasna were at Rabat Sale Airport to welcome the president of Guinea. The president of Guinea is accompaned by his wife and an important ministerial delegation, including the minister of foreign affairs.

General Lansana Conte announced that his visit to the Moroccan Kingdom comes within the framework of the constructive bilateral relations. The Guinean president expressed his pleasure at meeting His Majesty King Hassan II, may God grant him victory, in Morocco. He also said that this visit is the first of its kind since 1984, when he came to power in Guinea. He pointed out that the Moroccan help to the Guinean Government is still continuing today.

Foreign Minister Filali Departs for Strasbourg

LD130515 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic
2300 GMT 12 May 86

[Excerpt] The minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Abdellatif Filali, left Morocco today for Strasbourg, seat of the European Parliament. The visit follows the recent visit to Morocco lately by a delegation of European parliamentarians. The minister will have talks and consultations with a number of personalities in the European Parliament on the relations of Morocco with the EEC and the stand of Morocco on the enlargment of the market.

MAP Cites Arab League's Klibi on Tokyo Summit

LD121312 Rabat MAP in English 1219 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Tunis, May 12 (MAP) — Commenting on the results of the seven major industrialized countries' summit held in Tokyo, Japan, Secretary General of the Arab League Chedli Klibi made a declaration in which he highlighted the absence in these results of true solutions to the fundamental problems facing the international community.

He also noted the deliberate amalgamation of terrorism and the liberation struggle of the Palestinian people whereas the state terrorism carried out by Israel is supported militarily and politically.

The final communique released by the Tokyo summit, the declaration said, arouses surprise owing to the fact that it ignores the fundamental problems facing the international community, including developing countries, and the serious economic depression prevailing in most of developing countries and which are entailed by famine, desertification, the drop in raw material prices and the increase of the foreign debt of these countries.

Recalling that Arab countries had condemned at the summit level terrorism under all its forms, the declaration added, that in pronouncing the condemnation, Arab countries laid emphasis on the necessity of not mistaking the people's right to defend their existence and struggle for their freedom for terrorism. "We also affirmed that aggression cannot be justified by terrorism, or resort to official terrorism at the level of the state to strike on those who react against terrorism acts perpetrated by an aggressor who abuses the peoples' elementary rights", added the declaration.

SUDAN

Reagan Message to Al-Mahdi Expresses Support

JN121739 Khartoum SUNA in English 1730 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Khartoum, May 12 (SUNA) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan has asserted the U.S. concern over carrying on its economic and military assistance to Sudan.

President Reagan's pledge came in a message of congratulations sent to Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi on the occasion of his election as premier.

In his message Reagan said the American people congratulate the Sudanese people on the recent elections.

As friends to Sudan we will continue our military, economic assistance to Sudan as we did last year for the combat of drought in Sudan, the message said. The U.S. is keen for developing its economic and military assistance to Sudan which had begun working for rebuilding its democratic institutions after seventeen years period.

Reagan in the message voiced his concern over the continuation of friendly relations between the U.S. and Sudan and hoped Mr al-Mahdi preserves the circumstances which will guarantee the continuation of the assistances that the U.S. extends to Sudan.

Al-Mirghani Receives U.S. Ambassador in Khartoum

JN121428 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1417 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Khartoum, 12 May (SUNA) — State Council Chairman Ahmad al-Mirghani received U.S. Ambassador in Khartoum Alexander Horan here today. Following the meeting, the U.S. ambassador said that he extended the congratulations of President Reagan and the American people to Ahmad al-Mirghani on his assumption of the chairmanship of the State Council. The ambassador stressed his country's support for Sudan during this critical stage of its history. The ambassador also said that the return of U.S. nationals to Sudan depends on current circumstances in the country.

Al-Mahdi Receives USSR, Turkish, African Ambassadors

JN111847 Khartoum SUNA in English 1745 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Khartoum, May 11 (SUNA) — Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi met today with the Soviet Union ambassador to Khartoum. Following the meeting the ambassador said that the meeting discussed means of boosting bilateral relations.

Meanwhile Al-Mahdi discussed today means of promoting relations between Sudan and Turkey during his meeting with the Turkish ambassador to Khartoum.

On the other hand the prime minister met today with the group of African ambassadors to Khartoum and received their congratulations on the occasion of his assuming the post of prime minister.

Meets With Southern Party Leaders

JN121749 Khartoum SUNA in English 1734 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Khartoum, May 12 (SUNA) — Premier Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi today stated that all obstacles impeding the formation of the new government had been surmounted and that a full agreement was about to be reached.

This came after a meeting held here today between the premier and the southern political parties leaders, including the Sudanese National Party.

The meeting was held to discuss the participation in the government of southern parties and Sudanese National Party, led by Father Philip Ghabbush, and the ministries they scheduled to hold.

In a press statement, Al-Sadiq said an open day would be organized for the Constituent Assembly members, in and outside the government, to meet the premier and discuss with him any political or security questions.

A fortnight meeting will also be regularly held with parties leaders, including opposition leaders, to discuss any political development in the country, Al-Mahdi said.

Discusses Government Contacts

JN121110 Khartoum SUNA in English 1030 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Khartoum, May 12 (SUNA) — Premier Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said southerners should settle by themselves the question of regionalism in their regions through diplomatic dialogue.

But he indicated that his government would not alter the current administrative formula in the south till the southerners reach a settlement to this effect.

Al-Mahdi who was speaking to Juba Radio said contacts with Garang movement aims at bridging differences. Contacts are also underway with the Ethiopian Government, he added, in order to disengage any intermingling between bilateral ties and the role of Garang movement. On the absence of the National Islamic Front NIF from government formation, he said the NIF participation gives the government a national character only in shape but in fact it would weaken the government. Because, he added, it would diminish the governments ability to deal with Moslems, the modern society and the international community as well.

On his government's position towards September laws, he said they would undergo a radical change to ensure the religious, political and human rights of all people, no laws should be applied unless through democratic endorsement, he said.

Meets With Armed Forces Officials

JN121551 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1428 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Khartoum, 12 May (SUNA) — Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi has stressed the need for the Armed Forces to coordinate efforts to promote moral guidance so that they may carry out their national duties, adding that the elected government will maintain coordination with the Armed Forces to formulate sound political decisions guaranteeing Sudan's security and unity. This came during his visit to the People's Armed Forces General Command this morning and his meeting with with General Taj al-Din 'Abdallah Fadl, commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, and General Muhammad Tawfiq Khail, chief of staff of the Armed Forces.

Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi also stressed his desire to adopt the principle of consultations in dealing with issues of interest to the homeland and the Armed Forces, foremost of which is the problem of the south, pointing out that political, diplomatic, and security solutions are interlinked and should deal with all the grievances of the various sides. His excellency also affirmed that security is a priority and voiced the need for improving the Armed Forces in regard to equipment, training, qualifications, recruiting, and morale, affirming that the Armed Forces' military discipline and strength, as well as their care of personnel, will contribute to efforts to entrench democracy.

At the beginning of the meeting, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces stressed the Armed Forces' support for the masses' desire to pursue democracy. He also congratulated the prime minister for the masses' confidence in him through the Constituent Assembly. The deputy commander of operations also spoke and the director of the operations branch gave a briefing on the security situation in the country in general and in Kordofan and the southern region in particular, as these two areas are affected by military oeprations carried out by the John Garang forces as well as by internal and external security threats against Sudan.

Thanks People for Rumbek Recovery

EA111250 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1948 GMT 8 May 86

[Speech by Sudanese Premier Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi on 8 May at the Workers Federation House in Khartoum on the occasion of the world workers centenary — recorded]

[Excerpt] I congratulate you and our Armed Forces on the recovery of Rumbek Town. [applause] And I say once again: We do not want this fighting, for every one killed on either side is a Sudanese and it is our duty to protect and (?preserve) his blood. [applause] But he who shoulders arms against his people must be resolutely faced by the people, for whoever [words indistinct] he sometimes [word indistinct] (?for) the one who has mercy on him. [applause] It is meaningless to shoulder arms against Sudan now, because Sudan now, its people and government, are a group [jamah] that affords an opportunity for the expression of the opinion of each. It protects fundamental liberties: It protects the independence of the judiciary; it establishes government on the basis of representation [niyabah]; it will never assert that the state we are in is right and the state you are in is wrong. On the contrary, it says: Come ye for equal talks between us and you. Such a course does not justify the bearing of arms in opposition, because those who bear arms against this course stand against the people: They stand against rightness: They stand against history. Whoever adopts such a position must face punishment and a harsh confrontation.

There is a group that does not admire all this, but thinks day and night of distorting democracy and of distorting freedom. They raise numerous slogans at night. They soliloquize about dictatorship and how dictatorship is the way for their honor, dignity, and supremacy. This group knows that the worst and (?dirtiest) type of dictatorship is the one that was set up by Jafar Numayri, because he spent all the peoples funds on it, imposed it on them, and imported alien tutelage for it. In spite of this, the people topped Jafar Numayri. Therefore, whoever embarks upon this road will find his way to the kiln of history into which Jafar Numayri went. [applause] Some of them write in newspapers, singing about the glories of dictatorship, some of them hatch conspiracies to distort the appearance of freedom and some of them conspire by night to polarize the enemies of freedom. Whatever happens, the people are lying in wait and God is with us. God willing, He will grant us victory not only over the conspiracies of despotism and distortion inside the Sudan, but, God willing, everwhere, for rightness towers and it is not towered over. Peace and God's mercy be upon you. [applause]

Al-Mahdi Interviews Carried by Kuwaiti Newspapers

AL-QABAS Interview

GF121818 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 11 May 86 pp 14, 15

[Interview with Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi by *AL-QABAS* correspondent Muhammad Jasim al-Saqr in Sudan — date not given]

[Excerpts][Muhammad Jasim al-Saqr] With regard to the south, there is no doubt that settling the situation in southern Sudan and putting an end to armed operations in the south is one of the most important problems facing the new Sudanese Government, as the continuation of this situation certainly will limit Sudan's capability to face the vast economic problems left by the previous regime. How do you propose to resolve this problem and what is your assessment of the response from Colonel John Garang to a call for a peaceful solution?

[Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi] First of all, I would like to thank *AL-QABAS* for its continuous stand with the Sudanese people during their crisis.

We are now formulating our move with regard to the issue of the south on three axes:

1. The political axis. We want to hold negotiations and talk about injustices and demands and we believe that it is possible to agree on this. We, on our part, defined eight points of differences and injustices and the Garang brethren and their supporters agreed that these indeed are the issues that need to be resolved after discussion. Thus, the first axis concerns a national constitutional congress where we all would sit down and look into these injustices. In my opinion we have a big opportunity to reach a decisive agreement on these points within a peaceful political framework.

2. The security axis. Among the most wrongful and dangerous things which was left by Ja'far Numayri in Sudan was the weakness of the Sudanese Armed Forces. The people used to believe that at least he was fortifying the Armed Forces. But it was just the opposite. While it is known that he was destructive, it was expected that the Armed Forces would be left out of this dark fate, but this was not the case. He harmed the Armed Forces very badly and this harm allowed all those seeking to challenge security to carry arms and inflict damages. For this reason the second axis in which we are moving is the need to strengthen the Armed Forces in order to close the door to those who want to challenge public order. This, we believe, is a basic issue.

3. The diplomatic axis. This refers to the need to achieve good neighborliness between Sudan and its neighbors in order to restore a balance in Sudan's foreign relations, and so that the neighbors will play a positive role in each other's development and security and not a negative role as during the Numayri era. I believe that these three axes will control our decisive move in solving the problem [of the south]. We believe that the problem is basically due to wrong policies which, God willing, will be eliminated. As the current situation is delicate, we hope that our move will lead to finding a decisive solution.

[Al-Saqr] Can you give us an idea about your approach toward solving economic problems?

[Al-Mahdi] We believe that the foundations of the Sudanese economy — raw materials and manpower — are sufficient, but there are two problems:

1. Our inherited debts. Our plan on this issue is to ask friends and brothers and all those concerned with this matter to suspend the issue of these debts for 2 or 3 years until we can arrange our internal situation; then we can talk to them accordingly. We do not want the creditor brothers to think that we are neglecting our commitments, but the destruction that we inherited stipulates that we first treat the goose that lays the golden eggs. We must treat this sick goose before talking about the gold that it will lay. The initial issue that we will face and in which we want to achieve a kind of balance is the issue of time in order to arrange our economic situation. Then we can talk about our commitments in light of the results of this arrangement. This is an important problem and a balance with respect to it must be found.

2. Sudan's role as a beggar country. Numayri turned Sudan into a beggar state. This was a big and grave mistake because even begging has its price. Nobody gives you anything without imposing political shackles. The resulting economic damages can be bigger than what you get from him.

For that and various other reasons we want to end Sudan's role as a beggar state. We believe that there is a basis for action which is in Sudan's favor and will help it to achieve a healthy national economy. Certainly we realize that we are suffering from the frailty of our intrinsic capabilities and although we want to overcome this frailty, it is necessary first to solve certain problems. There are basic problems that must be solved, the first being oil. While Sudan has enough oil to satisfy its domestic needs, at present we are in need of a party to provide us with oil. We will resolve this issue shortly. There are various solutions: A party could lend oil to us on the condition that we repay it with oil. Such party would certainly know that we have the oil with which to repay it. A tripartite agreement between us and the lending country and the company producing the oil can be signed as a guarantee on the basis that this is a trade and not a grant; a trade until it is possible to produce oil.

[Al-Saqr] What are the convictions of the new government regarding relations with Egypt and the Camp David accords, particularly since Egyptian-Sudanese relations exist while all other Arab countries have boycotted Egypt? What is your stand in this regard?

[Al-Mahdi] Certainly the Camp David accords harmed Egypt, the Arabs, and the Muslims. The accords were to the advantage of neither Egypt nor the Arabs and this remains our conviction. We believe it is necessary to achieve a balance based on a minimum level of Arab commitment and Arab solidarity and all the obligations and commitments of any Arab side should be based on this minimum level. In reality we believe that there is a conviction in Egypt — its government and people — that the Camp David accords did not achieve what was expected of them, and only enabled Israel to attack the Arab nation and continue this attack. Our concern is to support this awareness and support reconsideration in the hope of ending this alienation through Arab solidarity on which obligations and other commitments will be based. I personally believe that Arab interests now require that two things be carried out before anything else. First, the Gulf war must be ended and second, a balance must be achieved that has a kind of Arab solidarity which surpasses Camp David and in which there will be an embodiment of the official and popular Egyptian awareness that this agreement did not serve the expected goals.

[Al-Saqr] Relations between Numayri's regime and Libya were very bad, but after the uprising relations improved. Will relations between you and Libya strengthen? Did the U.S. attack have any effect on Sudanese policy, particularly since you have good relations with the West?

[Al-Mahdi] We preserve all our relations. Our relations with Libya will not be on the account of other relations; neither will our relations with Egypt be on the account of another relationship; nor will our relations with the United States be on the account of another relationship. First of all, Libya is a neighbor and we believe in good neighborliness with all our neighbors. Numayri's mistake was that he neglected this fact and entered into hostilities with our neighbors. Second, the United States is a big country and we should have relations with it in the international arena. We establish relations with the United States, Libya, and all countries without agreeing to follow their political or international trends. We believe that success in our relations with others is based on our independent stand and acknowledgement of the rights of others to seek mutual interests. We will not allow anybody to force us to stand with their policies and convictions against others, no matter who they are. If one errs against another or attacks another, we condemn it. For example, the Government and people of Sudan condemned the U.S. bombardment of Libya. We have the right to tell the one who makes a mistake that he is mistaken and the one who is right that he is right. At the same time we establish relations with them not on the basis of being subjected to them but on the basis of mutual interests.

AL-ANBA' Interview

GF091459 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic
8 May 86 pp 22, 23

[Interview with Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi by Ahmad Hanqah in Khartoum — date not given]

[Excerpts] [Ahmad Hanqah] How do you view Libya, which has been trying to propose unity with Sudan since the beginning of the uprise?

[Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi] Our government will decide our stand toward the proposed unity, which is very acceptable in principle. However the Libyan unity project is loose. The Sudanese people have the choice to accept it or to turn it down. The Sudanese parties which have different programs will also have their word on this matter shortly.

[Hanqah] You have talked about Arab solidarity. What about the ongoing Gulf war? Does it have any effect on this solidarity?

[Al-Mahdi] As you know, Sudan has entered a new era of democracy. As we have astonished the world by building the edifice of democracy and freedom and by eliminating our differences to save our nation homeland, we are capable — with God's will — of consolidating the solidarity and cooperation among the Arab countries as soon as possible. Our new government will make use of all the instruments of success with the help of others to end the Gulf war. This war is exhausting the resources of the Muslims and limiting their capabilities. Zionism is glad of the continuation of this war. We Muslims are capable of rising above the wounds to successfully halt this war. Believe me, the possibility of reaching an agreement is greater than disagreeing. This will be the start. My government is ready to undertake this great Islamic duty, because without achieving success the cooperation among the Arab and Islamic countries has no meaning.

[Hanqah] Will the presence of Israel in central African countries bother your country?

[Al-Mahdi] The presence of Israel as a hostile entity is indeed a worrying matter. Who does not worry about Israel? The entire world is worried about Israel in different ways. As long as Israel is our primary enemy and our struggle is a fateful one, we must be cautious in dealing with those who establish relations with this entity. Israel had greater influence in Africa before 1973 than today. However, we were not greatly affected, because the Arab solidarity was our shield at that time. Nevertheless, Israel has managed to introduce new means of communications and infiltration, while we retreated from. In fact, the presence of Israel in Central Africa is a very annoying matter to us. However, its presence in northern Africa is more annoying and more dangerous.

[Hanqah] The Palestinian issue is lost now. What is the stance of your government toward it in light of the current developments?

[Al-Mahdi] The Palestinians are our brothers and our cousins. We toppled Numayri by historical revolution. The decisive factor which angered the people is the issue of the Palestinian people. The trial of the CIA agents in the Numayri regime is the least we can present to the Palestinian people. We respect the independent Palestinian decision. This decision must not be toyed with, pressed, or seduced in order to achieve any goal that has no relation to the main issue of liberating Palestinian territories.

SUNA Interviews State Council Member on Islamic Law

JN121805 Khartoum SUNA in English 1740 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Khartoum, May 12 (SUNA) — The State Council member Dr Pacifico Lado Loleik today stated that he would submit his resignation if it could prepare a suitable atmosphere of understanding on southern Sudan.

Inteviewed by the SUDAN NEWS AGENCY (SUNA) Mr Loleik said there was no fixed standard for the representation of the south in the constitutional institutions and the population one was controversial.

As for Shari'ah laws, Mr Loleik asserted that Muslims constitute the majority in the country and that they could be governed by Shar'ah, but, he added, they could not impose it on us. Therefore, a formula guaranteeing peaceful coexistence should be reached, he echoed.

Over the controversial issue of the Islamic legislation which was introduced by the deposed President Numayri in 1983, Loleik voiced his idea that these legislations must not be applied in all parts of the country.

There must be a federal secular constitution in the country while the north Muslim part would have the right to apply the Muslim legislations, the Supreme Council member said in his interview with SUNA.

Over the initiative unleashed by some southern parties over ignoring the leader of Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) Loleik expressed his objection to the call and voiced that dialogue is the only solution for the southern and constitutional question.

Loleik on the other hand added that tribalism had been an important faction in the complication of the southern question.

National Party's Ghabbush Interviewed
PM090830 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 7-13 May 86 p 11

[Interview with Sudanese National Party Leader Philip Ghabbush by Nura Fakhuri and Muhammad Ahmad Hisham in Omdurman; date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: You were jailed after last July's incidents. You were held responsible for what happened but then, 4 months later, you were released. Nothing was published about the investigations and we still do not know who was responsible. Why was the name of the person who was really responsible for the mutiny not announced?

Answer: That, regrettably, is the problem. The real culprit has to remain secret. The authorities were confused. Since, previous to that incident, I was charged three times, they thought that whenever any movement occurs in Sudan Philip Ghabbush must be responsible and so they arrested me. As to why I was kept in prison for such a long period after it was ascertained that there was no evidence against me, they had a reason for keeping me there. The Sudanese National Party was a new party growing very rapidly. The reason for my imprisonment was to impede the party's role so that other parties could have the field to themselves.

Question: You did not join the alliance's delegation which went to (Kukudam) to negotiate with Garang. You were accused of having links with Garang yourself.

Answer: That is what is being said and that is also why I was thrown in prison. The truth is that we have no links with John Garang but we agree with Garang's declarations in the general policy context. We, however, are quite distant from his ideology.

Question: There was an attempt on your life a few months ago and you showed Transitional Military Council Chairman General Siwar al-Dhahab the weapon that was to be used to kill you. Who has an interest in killing you?

Answer: As you can see, my door is open. That is why the National Front hired three people for 3,000 pounds each. Two of them were military and the third civilian. They were told: Kill him. There were three attempts. I am still threatened to this moment.

Question: What form of government would fulfill your ambitions.

Answer: We do not believe in autocratic rule. We are nationalists and we have suggested that the government in this current period should be a nationalist one comprising all Sudanese elements. We do not want an autocratic or coalition government.

Question: It seems that Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi will form the new government and we hear that you will be part of the opposition.

Answer: Yes we will be in the ranks of the opposition.

Question: Why?

Answer: Because he formed a Cabinet once before and achieved nothing. He will also achieve nothing in this new government.

Question: It has been reported that the parties have stored quantities of weapons. What is your information on this matter and do you expect violence of some kind?

Answer: That is a possibility. I do not deny it but I want to emphasize that we are democratic and are committed to the election results.

Question: Some Sudanese people believe that your opposition will be dangerous because you operate in extreme secrecy and because you are influential among a large number of deprived and poor people in Sudan.

Answer: Let the picture in your minds be as they have painted it. We lean toward peace but, like camels, we endure and we ruminate pain until it explodes.

Question: Is the explosion point drawing near?

Answer (with loud laughter): Not yet but, generally speaking, this is the secret of the job.

Garang: 'Effective Part' Needed in Government
EA121535 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 12 May 86

[Excerpt] The SPLM-SPLA leader, Colonel Dr John Garang de Mabior, has addressed a new batch of recruits from Equatoria at the movement's general headquarters. In the course of his statement, the SPLM-SPLA leader heartily welcomed the recruits into the movements ranks, praising them for their efforts and revolutionary spirit which, he said, has made it possible for them to endure all difficulties and cross large distances in order to come to the SPLA and participate in the struggle.

Speaking on the objectives and principles of the SPLM-SPLA, the movement's leader pointed out that the creation of a new Sudan was a task that required tremendous sacrifices. Such sacrifices, he said, had to be made because liberties and rights are not granted but have to be taken. The pursuit of freedom and basic rights, Col Dr John added, was what had prompted the

Sudanese masses to rid themselves of the colonizers and was what continues to prompt them to do away with the hegemony of the ruling minority clique of Khartoum.

The SPLM-SPLA leader said that the movement was capable of deterring and repulsing the enemy, no matter how powerful and tyrannical he became.

The SPLM-SPLA leader went on to say that the SPLM-SPLA had consistently rejected being part of the small exploitative governments in the country. We are fighting for establishment of a new Sudan, in which all Sudanese citizens would stand equal, regardless of distinctions which stem from race and religion.

Col Dr John Garang de Mabior concluded his statement by saying that no government that comes to power in Khartoum would enjoy stability unless the SPLM-SPLA was an effective part of such government.

Two Courts Formed To Try Sept 85 Mutineers

JN111044 Khartoum SUNA in English 1012 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Khartoum, May 11 (SUNA) — Two military courts were formed to try 200 military men for their involvement in last Sept ethnic plot in which few people wre killed, official source in the legal military branch said.

The two tribunals which are chaired by Major Yusuf al-Tayyib and Lieutenant Colonel 'Ubayd al-Salih 'Ubayd respectively will try the accused under mutineering and premeditated killing charges.

The accused had spearheaded a mutiny against the government last Sept. They attacked the medical and ordinances corps barracks in Khartoum killing few people.

Most of the accused are belonging to the Nuba sect of south western central Sudan.

There are two accusation panels from the army legal branch while the defence council includes five lawyers and chaired by Musa 'Abdallah Mursal.

TUNISIA

President Bourguiba, Officials Discuss Issues

LD121140 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba today received Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi in the presence of Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali, and the Mansour Skhiri, attached to the prime minister's office for civil service and administrative reform.

Following the meeting Essebsi made the following statement: I have reported to the president of the Republic about the current international situation and new developments, particularly the accusations of terrorism against a person claiming to be a Tunisian.

On this occasion, the president reaffirmed Tunisia's established principles of denuncation of terrorism from whatever source and whoever the culprit might be.

The president has asked the Tunisian ambassador in France to get in touch with the French authorities to verfiy the true identity of the suspect and the truth about his implication in this case. He also asked him to offer the help of the Tunisian departments concerned to the French authorities in their search for the truth.

The president is following with concern the developments taking place which indicate an Israeli intention to launch an aggression on Syria on flimsy pretexts and overt manouvers. This demands that international forces work to safeguard security and to stand up to the warmongers and threateners of peace.

2 Opposition Party Papers Closed for 6 Months

HK100500 Hong Kong AFP in English 0401 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] Tunis, May 10 (AFP) — The weekly newspapers of Tunisia's two main legal opposition parties have been closed for six months for allegedly publishing "false news" and "defamation," the two parties announced here Friday.

All the issues of the papers — the movement of Democratic Socialists' *AL MOUSTAQBAL (FUTURE)* and the Communist Party's *TARAK EL JADID (THE NEW WAY)* — have been seized in the three weeks since the April 15 U.S. bombing attack on Libya.

The issues contained articles on the U.S. attack, unrest at Tunis University and the state of trade unions in Tunisia, all critical of the United States or the Tunisian Government.

DJIBOUTI

President Holds Party Meeting, Expels Official

EA091420 Djibouti Domestic Service in Somali 1645 GMT 8 May 86

[Text] An extraordinary meeting of the Political Committee of the People's Progress Assembly [RPP], the ruling party in the Republic of Djibouti, has been held in the town of Arta, under the chairmanship of the president of the Republic, Hassan Gouled Aptidon. The meeting resolved to expel Mr Adan Robleh Awaleh, who was formerly a member of the Political Committee and the third vice-chairman of the party. Adan Robleh Awaleh was found to have engaged in activities contrary to the principles of the RPP.

The secretary general of the RPP, who is also the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation of the Republic of Djibouti, Moumin Bahdon Farah, briefed the party Political Committee on the various anti-party activities in which Adan Robleh Awaleh took part. These included massive propaganda campaigns against the party both inside and outside the country.

ETHIOPIA

Libyan Transport Minister Arrives 12 May

EA122026 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Brother Mubarak al-Shamikh, Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah [SPLAJ] minister of transport and communications, arrived in Addis Ababa today. Brother Mubarak was received at Bole International Airport by Comrade Goshu Wolde, WPE Central Committee member and minister of foreign affairs, together with Brother Khalifa Ahmad Bazelya, the SPLAJ secretary in Revolutionary Ethiopia.

Clandestine Eritrean Radio Details Recent Fighting

EA112143 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 0500 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Eritrean Peoples Liberation Army members and the EPLF's peoples militia, who are bulwark of their people, attacked the Dergue army base at (Imberte) last Wednesday, 7 May. During this attack, which took place at 0200, our heroic combatants killed 5 Dergue soldiers, wounded 7, and captured 16 kalashnikov assault rifles and other useful material before returning safely to base.

In other action, two Dergue fighter aircraft carried out a barbarous bombing raid on innocent families in northwestern Sahel 9 May. During this atrocious bombing raid 11 children, 5 women, and 3 men, who were among families travelling to rainy areas in order to overcome the drought problem, were killed and another 70 were wounded. The wounded persons survived because of timely medical aid from the EPLF combatants in the area.

New Coffee, Tea Development Minister Appointed

EA122020 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1800 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] The PMAC and the Dergue announced a new appointment today. Comrade Tekola Dejene, member of the WPE Central Committee was appointed minister for coffee and tea development.

KENYA

'Certain Rich' Accused of Promoting Subversion

EA121314 Nairobi KNA in English 0820 GMT 12 May 86

[Excerpts] Eldoret, May 12: The minister for education, science, and technology, Mr Oloo Aringo said yesterday that certain rich Kenyans were colluding with some foreigners in providing financial assistance to subversive activities in Kenya. Mr Aringo described such people as a few unpatriotic elements bent on betraying their own country and deceiving themselves to be intellectuals while actually playing the role of stooges. The minister was addressing his Alego/Usonga constituents residing in Trans Nzoia district at Kitale social hall. Mr Aringo urged all Kenyans to remain loyal to the president and stand firm in defending the country against any threats.

TANZANIA

President Assures Farms Not To Be Nationalized

EA112138 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 10 May 86

[Excerpt] Morogoro — President Ali Hassan Mwinyi today assured individuals owning big farms that the government would not nationalize their farms, but would instead be prepared to help them. Addressing a rally at Jamhuri Stadium in Morogoro in eastern Tanzania this afternoon after a 1-week tour of the region, President Mwinyi said it was the nation's intention to become self-sufficient in food and that the government's agricultural policy did not prohibit anyone from cultivating in accordance with his capability. President Mwinyi, however, cautioned that big private farms should be allocated far away from villages. Earlier, today, President Mwinyi toured a 200 ha corn farm belonging to a businessman in Morogoro and assured him that the government did not intend to nationalize private farms.

CAR

Kolingba Bans Student Strikes, Demonstrations

AB121745 Paris AFP in French 1333 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Bangui, 12 May (AFP) — The CAR head of state, General Andre Kolingba, has taken a series of measures banning boycott of classes in schools and at the university, it is learned in Bangui on Monday.

Under the terms of an ordinance, boycott of classes and all demonstrations by school children and students not authorized by the Ministry of Interior are banned. Authors or accomplices of a strike action or demonstration face a 3-year prison term. Heads of institutions or the education minister can decide their closure, the suspension or dismissal of authors or leaders of the strike action or demonstrations, or in addition, the withdrawal of their scholarships, the ordinance states. Under the terms of another ordinance, an "arbitration council" has been set up to rule on grievances of the students and pupils as a last resort. This council is made up of a chairman chosen from among the magistrates and eight advisers, representing the Ministry of National Education, the magistrates, Parent- Teacher Association and the Association of Students and Pupils.

It is recalled that on 10 March, pupils of secondary schools in Bangui began a strike which lasted more than a month and which was described by CAR authorities as an "act of destabilization engineered from outside." Twelve students were tried in court for "threatening state security."

CONGO

Joint Communique Issued on PLO Leader's Visit

GF120858 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 11 May 86

["Text" of joint communique issued in Brazzaville at conclusion of visit to Congo by Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, on 7 May]

[Text] 1. — At the invitation of His Excellency Comrade Sassou-Nguesso, chairman of the Central Committee of the Congolese Labor Party, president of the republic and prime minister [title as heard], Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, conducted a friendly working visit to the People's Republic of Congo from 5 to 7 May.

2. — Comrade Yasir 'Arafat and the delegation accompanying him were warmly received by the Congolese people, their party, and government. This reveals the mutual feelings of appreciation and effective solidarity which links the Palestinian and Congolese peoples.

3. — During his stay, the leader of the Palestinian revolution visited a number of economic achievements. He left for Brazzaville, where he admired the efforts of the People's Republic of Congo to bolster its independence.

4. — The PLO chairman and the Congolese president exchanged views on the development of bilateral relations and the most important world issues.

5. — Those who took part in the talks on the Congolese side were Pierre Nze, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee for international affairs; Pierre Moussa, secretary of the Central Committee and planning minister; Emanuel (Elengah), member of the Central Committee and chief of staff of the National People's Army; ChristolpheBouramoue, public health and social affairs minister; Joseph Elenga-Ngaporo, minister and director of the President's Office; (Clemense Mwamba), member of the Central Committee and the president's adviser; (Bazil Aqwevi), the diplomatic adviser to the president; (Albere Tonge), the director of political affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; and (Jaque Obia) director of bilateral cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

6. — Those who attended the talks on the Palestinian side were: 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad, member of the PLO Executive Committee; Abu 'Ala' Ahmad, the chairman's economic adviser; brother Salman al-Hirfi, adviser on African affairs; 'Imad Shakhur, adviser; and Salah Abu Zur, PLO representative in Congo.

While reviewing bilateral relations, the two sides expressed their satisfaction with the excellent cooperation existing and their firm determination to develop this cooperation.

7. — The two sides studied with extreme attention and concern the situation in the Middle East and in all parts of the world. Their views were identical.

8. — The PLO chairman briefed President Sassou-Nguesso on the current situation in the struggle by the heroic Palestinian people against the Zionist occupier.

9. — The two sides stressed that there will be no just and durable peace in the region without the recognition of the Palestinian people's inalienable rights, including their right to self-determination and to establishing their independent and sovereign state.

10. — President Sassou-Nguesso stressed the Congolese people's effective struggle with the Arab countries, most importantly with the Palestinian people's just struggle under the PLO leader, their sole and legitimate representative, to restore their national rights and the occupied territories.

11. — The two sides denounced the Israeli policy and activities in the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories and the Israeli rejection of international law, UN resolutions, and international public opinion. They stressed the need to convene a peace conference to attain peace in the Middle East as soon as possible with the participation of all concerned sides, including the PLO.

12. — On the situation in Lebanon, the two sides reiterated the Palestinian people's inalienable rights to attain their independence and self-determination without foreign interference.

13. — As for the Iraq-Iran war — which still causes serious humanitarian and financial hardship — the two sides noted with concern that foreign powers are exploiting the continuation of this war to jeopardize the safety and security of Middle East countries and the entire world. Therefore, the two sides called for an immediate end to this war. They also expressed support for the call by the nonaligned summit in New Delhi concerning the resolution of differences through negotiations.

14. — While reviewing the situation in the Mediterranean, which results from armed attacks to which the territory of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah was subjected, the two sides strongly condemned this shameful and filthy act, which constitutes an encroachment upon international law and the principles of the UN Charter. The two sides also expressed their full solidarity and support for the Libyan people.

15. — On the situation in Africa, the two sides reviewed the grave problems that confront the African Continent.

16. — As for the situation in South Africa, the two sides denounced the apartheid policy followed by the racist government of South Africa. They reiterated their support for the ANC in its struggle to build a democratic society antagonistic to racism in Southern Africa. They also denounced the aggressive acts and the policy of creating instability adopted by the racist regime of Pretoria against the frontline states.

17. — The two sides denounced as well the illegitimate and imperialist occupation of Namibia by the racist regime in South Africa, which constitutes a violation of UN resolutions, particularly UN Security Resolution 435/78. They reiterated their support for the just struggle of the Namibian people under SWAPO, their genuine and legitimate representative.

18. — The two sides strongly denounced the criminal cooperation existing between the Zionist and the apartheid regimes.

19. — The two sides stressed the need to develop and cement existing relations between Arab and African countries. In this connection, the two sides called for convening the second Arab-African conference to discuss problems to which Arab and African countries are subjected.

20. — President Sassou-Nguesso and Chairman Yasir 'Arafat expressed satisfaction with the friendly and comradely atmosphere which characterized their talks, together with the results attained.

21. — President Sassou-Nguesso expressed his profound appreciation for Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in his capacity as a wise and courageous leader who leads the Palestinian people's struggle.

22. — For his part Chairman Yasir 'Arafat expressed his profound appreciation to President Sassou-Nguesso for the absolute support he still accords to national liberation movements, particularly in Palestine, and for his outstanding role in the OAU and the Nonaligned Movement.

23. — Chairman Yasir 'Arafat thanked President Sassou-Nguesso for the struggle relations and the brotherly reception accorded to him.

BENIN

PLO Chairman 'Arafat Arrives for Visit 12 May

AB122150 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 12 May 86

[Excerpts] The militant people of Benin this afternoon welcomed an illustrous guest. PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat is paying an official visit to our country. This visit, it must be stressed, is a testimony of the solidarity of our people with justice-, freedom-, and peace-loving people.

His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat was welcomed on arrival by our great comrade in arms, President Mathieu Kerekou. Present at the Cotonou international airport were members of the ruling organs of our party and our revolutionary state, members of the party's mass organizations, a detachment of the people's armed forces, and a large crowd of militants. After the military honors and the inspection of the guard, His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat spoke to pressmen at the VIP lounge of the airport.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Mr Chairman, we welcome you to the free African land of Benin. Your visit to Cotonou is of special importance because the entire people of Benin firmly support the brotherly Pelestinian people in their heroic struggle against Zionism and international imperialism. Could you t. . us [words indistinct] on your arrival in Cotonou?

['Arafat in Arabic followed by French translation] First of all, I am happy to be here in this friendly country. In fact, my brother, President Kerekou, and I maintain fraternal and friendly ties [words indistinct]. The Palestinian people and the people of Benin are linked by very solid ties of friendship and fraternity. [passage indistinct] on behalf of all my Palestinian brothers, who are engaged in a (?relentless) war against imperialism and colonialism, and in my own name, I express my sincere gratitude and consideration to President Kerekou and the people of Benin for their firm support which they continue to give to the Palestinian cause. We share the same belief against imperialism, Zionism, racial discrimination and colonialism. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Shortly after his arrival, His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat held private talks with our great comrade in arms, President Mathieu Kerekou, at the Republican Palace in Cotonou, but nothing has been reported on their meeting.

President Kerekou Receives Burkinabe Minister

AB062300 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] President Mathieu Kerekou this morning held discussions with the Burkinabe minister of territorial administration and security, Comrade Ernest Nongma Ouedraogo. After the audience, Comrade Ouedraogo answered some questions from members of the press. First of all, he stated the subject of his discussion with the head of state, and then touched on Beninese-Burkinabe cooperation.

[Begin recording] [Ouedraogo] I have actually just been granted an audience by the Comrade President Kerekou. I delivered to him a message of friendship and fraternity from his counterpart, the comrade president of Burkina Faso [Captain Thomas Sankara], and briefed him on the purpose of my mission here. You know that Benin and Burkina Faso have quite a long border, and it is in the framework of the demarcation of this border that I am currently visiting Benin.

[Unidentified reporter] Can you tell us precisely the status of the cooperation between your country, Burkina Faso, and our country, the People's Republic of Benin?

[Ouedraogo] Well, cooperation between Burkina Faso and its sister revolutionary neighbor is at its best. On the political level, there is no problem. On the economic level, we have pursued actions since 4 August 1983 — the date when the National Council of the Revolution came to power — to redeem Burkina Faso from its landlocked state which, as you know, is a country without an outlet to the sea, and this causes it a lot of problems. Therefore with Benin we have undertaken to rehabilitate, or rather to build the Porga road. Recently, a Burkinabe delegation came here and had the opportunity to work with the comrade minister of equipment and transport, and I believe that in a few days' time, (?a delegation) will leave Cotonou for Ouagadougou — all these come under the strengthening of the cooperation between our two states. [end recording]

Libyan Envoy Brings Al-Qadhdhafi Message of Thanks

AB092202 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 9 May 86

[Excerpt] Two personalities were received in audience this morning by the head of state. They are Brother Sayid Hafyana, special envoy of the Libyan Revolution, and Citizen Kasongo Mukundji, speaker of the Zairian assembly. After the audience in the president's office, Brother Sayid Hafyana told the press the object of his meeting with our great comrade in the struggle, Comrade Mathieu Kerekou, stating the following:

[Begin Hafyana recording] We have been sent here by the Libyan (?leader) Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to his brother, President Mathieu Kerekou. We would like first of all, to express our thanks and our gratitude on behalf of our spiritual (?guide), on behalf of the Libyan people, on behalf of our the Libyan revolutionary committees, for the stand adopted by President Kerekou, the Beninese nation, the Beninese people who wholeheartedly and unequivocally condemned the barbaric aggression carried out by America against the people of the Jamahiriyah. In the same way, we also appreciate the revolutionary courage — the authentically revolutionary courage — manifested and confirmed by President Kerekou's standpoint. [Words indistinct] fully convinced that the aggression of American imperialism against Libya (?constitutes also) another colonialist and imperialist aggression against the Beninese revolution. [passage omitted] [end recording]

BURKINA FASO

Photo Exhibition on U.S. Attack on Libya Opens

AB101241 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] The official opening of the photo exhibition organized by the Libyan People's Bureau on the U.S. attack on the towns of Tripoli and Benghazi, was held yesterday afternoon at the Libyan Cultural Center. Present at this ceremony were the Grand Chancellor of the Golden Star of Burkina Faso, the comrade national general secretary of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR], the comrade commander in chief of the High Command of the People's Armed Forces, and Brother Sayid Hafyana, the Libyan emissary to Burkina Faso.

After the cutting of the inauguration tape, Comrade Emmanuel (Bayie), president of the Liaison Bureau between the CDRs and the Libyan People's Revolutionary Committees [PRC], stressed in his address the courage of the Libyan people who are determined to safeguard their gains against anything.

Brother Sayid Hafyana, who was awarded the Silver Medal of the Torchlight of the Revolution on this occasion, also spoke to the participants and expressed satisfaction with the Burkinabe support to the Libyan people, which was recently manifested after the U.S. attack on Libya. He greatly commended our people for their determination and clearsightedness in carrying out the struggle for independence and dignity with all the peoples in struggle. He said that the Libyan people would always stand at the side of the Burkinabe people wherever this would be necessary. Let us listen to him.

[Begin Hafyana recording] (?Thank you for paying me so much honor), actually speaking, I do not deserve all this simply because I am a revolutionary and in Libya there is revolution. I am convinced (?of the need to foster relations) between the Burkinabe revolution and the Libyan revolution because it is the conviction of the leader of the Libyan revolution, Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and it is the conviction of all the revolutionaries in Libya. Why? Simply because the 4 August revolution was launched in Burkina Faso to fight. What? To fight colonialism, reactionaries, and those who want to stop the historic march forward of the Burkinabe people. This is an example for our alliance, the alliance of the two peoples, the alliance of the two revolutions. (?There is a similarity because the objectives of your revolution are in line with the conviction and the revolutionary commitment of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and of his people). In front of you, the revolutionary people of Burkina Faso, I consider the medal awarded me as awarded to the Libyan people, the Revolutionary Committees Movement. I really want to thank you all and also to say that the struggle being conducted by the Libyan people is the (?same) as that being conducted by the Burkinabe people. [end recording]

GAMBIA

Sir Dawda Jawara Calls for Cease-Fire in Gulf War

AB092140 Dakar PANA in English 1345 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Banjul, 9 May (GINS/PANA) — Gambian President Sir Dawda Jawara, who is the chairman of the Islamic Peace Committee, has appealed to Iran and Iraq to observe an immediate cease-fire for the duration of the forthcoming month of Ramadan.

In a message addressed to the leaders of the two countries, through the secretary general of the Organisation of Islamic Conference, President Jawara urged the two countries to cooperate fully with the Islamic Peace Committee.

In this way, he said, the peace process could be renewed with a view to entering into substantial and meaningful negotiations.

The president also reiterated that he had placed himself and the good offices of the Islamic Peace Committee constantly at the disposal of the two countries and hoped that a meeting between the committee and the authorities in Iran and Iraq can be arranged soon. He said the Islamic Peace Committee strongly deplores the fact that the unfortunate Gulf war, now in its sixth year, continues to claim more and more human lives despite repeated appeals for a cease-fire. He noted that the precious lives lost since the outbreak of the war could have been spared for the greater cause of the entire Islamic Ummah, particularly the Palestinian question and the mounting aggression against Muslim states.

The Peace Committee chairman said this war between two Muslim nations threatens to deal a serious blow to the dignity and unity of Islam, and its prolongation contributes to the weakening of the solidarity of the Islamic Ummah.

GHANA

Argentine Envoy Brings Message for Foreign Secretary

AB110750 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] A special envoy of the foreign minister of Argentina, (Henrique de la Gardia), has arrived in Accra with a special message from the minister, Dante Caputo, to the secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah. The contents of the message are not known, but they are believed to be connected with the purchase of weapons and the hiring of mercenaries to destabilize the ongoing process.

It will be recalled that Dr Asamoah gave hint of the coming of the envoy on his return from a visit to Brazil. According to him, the envoy will throw more light on mercenary activities in that country, where arms and ammunition were bought with the intention to destabilize the government. The mercenaries, who were aboard a Panamanian chartered vessel with the arms and ammunition, were intercepted and arrested in Brazil.

Speaking to newsmen on arrival, Mr (Gardia) said in addition to delivering the message, he will hold talks with officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on bilateral issues. His visit is also to prepare for the arrival of the Argentine ambassador-designate to Ghana. Mr (Gardia) noted that Ghana and Argentina can cooperate to develop and improve their economies. He said Argentina is grateful to Ghana for her support for the restoration of the sovereignty of the Malvinas, formerly the Falkland Islands, during the British annexation. Ghana presented a resolution on the issue at the United Nations in support of Argentina.

LIBERIA

Chad's Lassou Arrives With Habre Message for Doe

AB120845 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
0655 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] The foreign minister of Chad, Gouara Lassou, is in Liberia to deliver a special message from Chadian President Hissein Habre to President Samuel Kanyon Doe. A LINA [LIBERIA NEWS AGENCY] report said Mr Lassou, who is also member of the Executive Committee of the Political Bureau of Chad, arrived in Monrovia yesterday from Freetown, Sierra Leone, where he delivered a similar message to President Joseph Momoh.

The Chadian foreign minister was met upon arrival at the Roberts International Airport by his Liberian counterpart, Dr Joe Bernard Blamo. At a brief arrival ceremony, Minister Blamo spoke about the close ties between leaders of the Africa Continent. He told the Chadian foreign minister to feel at home in Liberia.

Earlier, Minister Lassou praised Dr Blamo for the warm welcome accorded him and noted that this was in line with the African hospitality to guests. He told Minister Blamo that he was presently on a 2-week tour of Africa to deliver special messages to presidents and heads of state from President Habre.

MALI

President Traore Receives CAR Leader's Message

AB091642 Bamako Domestic Service in French
1500 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the UDPM [Democratic Union of Malian People] and president of the Republic, this morning received in audience a CAR delegation led by Michel Salla, secretary of state charged with the General Secretariat of the government. He was bearer of a message from President Andre Kolingba of the CAR. The talks centered on strengthening of the ties of friendship and cooperation between the two brotherly countries — Mali and the CAR — as well as the other states of that subregion of the continent, in conformity with the spirit of the Lagos Plan of Action which places emphasis on the interdependence of our economies. Following this audience, Michel Salle spoke to our correspondent (Seid Dona Omar Dicko):

[Begin recording] [Salle] The president and I discussed the issue of apartheid and so on and the most burning problems facing the African Continent. I want to inform you that we also discussed relations between the (?CAR) and the Republic of Mali.

[(Dicko)] Mr Secretary of State, we learned through the press about the creation of a party — the Central African Democratic Rally — in the CAR. [passage indistinct]

[Salle] No, (?Mr Journalist). My country is one of the countries fighting for peace and the grouping of all its people. In my opnion, I believe with the creation of a single party, it is out of the question to abolish the multiparty system. [Words indistinct] this party will group all the sons of the country and all the factions that have existed in our country.

[(Dicko)] When will the constitutional referendum take place?

[Salle] Mr Journalist, I am not in the position to give you any precise date, but what is certain is that the referendum will take place. [end recording]

The audience was held in the presence of Dr Ngolo Traore, permanent undersecretary at the Presidency; Mahamat Alhouseyni Toure, secretary general of the Presidency; and (Tdjani Idress), diplomatic advisor to the head of state.

NIGER

Reportage on Visit of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat

Meets President Kountche

AB112020 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 11 May 86

[Excerpt] Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, who began a friendly visit to our country this morning, held private talks this afternoon with President Seyni Kountche. Their talks centered on (?the privileged relations between Niger and the PLO) and on international problems [words indistinct]. After the talks, the PLO executive chairman and the head of state, Seyni Kountche, visited the [name indistinct] factory.

Departs After 24-Hour Visit

AB121420 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1200 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, who arrived in Niamey late yesterday morning for a 24-hour working visit to our country, left Niamey today. Before his departure, Yasir 'Arafat was accompanied to his aircraft by General Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council [CSM] and head of state, who was accompanied by the chief of General Staff of the Niger Armed Forces, General Ali Seydou, and the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Seni Bako.

The PLO chairman was greeted on departure by the chairman of the National Development Council (Mahamane Oumarou),

Prime Minister Hamid Algabid, members of the CSM and of the government, the doyen of the diplomatic corps, as well as ambassadors of Arab countries accredited to Niger.

Joint Communique Issued

AB122020 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 12 May 86

[Joint communique issued in Niamey at the conclusion of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Niger on 11 and 12 May — read by unidentified official]

[Text] At the invitation of His Excellency General Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state of the Republic of Niger, His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization [PLO] and commander in chief of the Palestine Revolutionary Forces, made an official working visit to the Republic of Niger on 11 and 12 May 1986.

The chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat, and his delegation were accorded a warm reception, which is indicative of the fraternal and cordial relations existing between the Republic of Niger and the PLO, as well as the mutual respect between the Niger and Palestinian peoples.

His excellency Chairman Yasir 'Arafat was accompanied by an important delegation comprising 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad, member of the PLO Executive Committee; Abu al-Ala Ahmad, Chairman 'Arafat's economic adviser; Sulayman Harfi, Chairman 'Arafat's adviser on African affairs; 'Imad Shakhur, presidential adviser; (Amir Abu Harirak), deputy director of the PLO bureau in Paris; (Ahmad Abu Rabah), PLO ambassador to Mali, and (Brahi Omar) first councillor of the PLO Embassy in Lagos.

During the visit, Chairman 'Arafat and President Seyni Kountche held private talks in a cordial atmosphere of frankness and mutual understanding, thus demonstrating the spirit of friendship, (?understanding), and the high esteem between the PLO and the Republic of Niger as well as between their two peoples. They made a thorough analysis of the [word indistinct] bonds existing between the PLO and the Republic of Niger, as well as the major international topical issues with an emphasis on the situation in southern Africa and in the Middle East and the Palestine question.

On bilateral matters, the two leaders expressed their satisfaction with the excellent relations existing between the Republic of Niger and the PLO and examined ways and means to strengthen the cooperation and solidarity between the Niger and Palestinian peoples.

On the situation in the Middle East and Palestine, the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat, briefed His Excellency Seyni Kountche on the recent developments in the region as well as on the PLO activities and role at the Palestine, Arab, and international levels. The Niger head of state once again pledged to the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee the sympathy and solidarity of the Niger people following Israel's air raid against the PLO Headquarters in Tunis, an act which constituted an unprovoked aggression against a people struggling for the restoration of all their fundamental inalienable rights. The two leaders expressed regret that no progress has been made in efforts to achieve a just peace and an equitable solution that recognizes and guarantees the rights of the Palestinian people [words indistinct] to self-determination and to the establishment of their own sovereign and independent state under the leadership of their only legitimate representative, the PLO.

In this connection, they expressed the need for the holding of an international conference under the aegis of the United Nations and attended effectively by the PLO. Convinced that the Palestinian question is the central problem of the [words indistinct], they urged the international community to grant support and assistance to the sacred cause of Palestine.

With regard to the Iraq-Iran war which has caused the death of a vast number of people and caused great material damage, the two leaders appealed to the two belligerents to put an immediate halt to this fratricidal war. They reiterated their endorsement of the appeals made by the summits of the Islamic countries and the Nonaligned Movement for a settlement of the conflict through negotiations.

Examining the grave situation in southern Africa [words indistinct] of that regime, the two presidents appealed to the international community to maintain and step up pressure with the view to putting an immediate end to apartheid and bringing about in South Africa a free and democratic society and the accession of Namibia to independence. In the same vein, they recalled the essential responsibility of the United Nations concerning Namibia and they (?called for) the immediate implementation of Resolution 435 of the Security Council.

They expressed the hope that the international conference (?against) South Africa due to take place from 10 to 15 June 1986 will result in measures and resolutions that will bring about a new era of peace and justice in that part of the African Continent.

Noting with strong disapproval the solid and multiform ties between Israel and racist South Africa, the two leaders expressed the need for the members of the OAU and the Arab League to team up in order to cope with that [word indistinct] criminal alliance which is directed against their common interests. In this regard, they deemed it necessary to convene a second Afro-Arab summit conference with a view to strengthening the cooperation between Arab and African countries and to making it possible for them to [words indistinct]. The two leaders reaffirmed their attachment to the principles and (?ideals) of the Nonaligned Movement and [words indistinct] for the peaceful settlement of international disputes.

In this connection, the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee hailed the efforts and initiatives of Gen Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state of Niger, in favor of peace and agreement on the continent.

Chairman 'Arafat thanked President Seyni Kountche for the friendly and warm reception accorded him and the members of

his delegation during their stay in Niger. The welcome was the translation of the unswerving feeling of solidarity of the Niger people toward the Palestinian people who are fighting to recover their rights.

Signed for the Republic of Niger by His Excellency Seyni Kountche, president of the Republic of Niger;

For the PLO, His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee.

Issued in Niamey on 12 May, 1986

Kountche Receives Malian Minister, Discusses Border
AB100911 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Brigadier General Seyni Kountche received this afternoon the Malian minister of interior. Lieutenant Colonel Abdourahamane Maiga, who is bearer of a message from President Moussa Traore to the head of state, discussed with President Seyni Kountche relations between Niger and Mali and the demarcation of their common border. [passage indistinct].

Border Demarcation Communique
AB092210 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 9 May 86

["Final Communique" issued in Niamey following a meeting of delegations from Niger and Malian Ministries of Interior on 9 May — read by Soumale Coulibaly, legal adviser at the Malian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation]

[Text] Final Communique: Within the framework of the consolidation of the traditional bonds of brotherhood and the strengthening of relations of good-neighborliness between the two states, a meeting took place in Niamey on 8 and 9 May between the minister of interior of the Republic of Mali and the minister delegate for interior of the Republic of Niger.

The Malian delegation, led by His Excellency Lieutenant Colonel Abdourahamane Maiga, minister of interior, comprises five members including the governor of Gao. The Niger delegation, led by His Excellency Amadou Fiti Maiga, minister delegate for interior, comprises 20 members including the secretary of state for Interior and the prefect for the Department of (?Niamey).

After formal speeches, the two delegations reviewed several issues of mutual interest, notably the establishment of a joint commission for demarcation of their common border; the movement of persons and goods; the exchange of information, and documentation on agriculture, health, livestock breeding, and water resources. The two delegations drew up a draft agreement on the creation of a joint commission for the demarcation of the border between the Republic of Niger and the Republic of Mali.

Concerning the movement of persons and goods, the two sides agreed to take urgent measures to settle the difficulties facing (?people) on both sides of the border. They also recommended an emergency meeting of technicians for the drawing up of a draft agreement on the transit of cattle and goods. The two delegations exchanged information on the (?process) of population census, and undertook to frankly cooperate with one another for the success of the operation.

The two delegations agreed on the need to exchange information on the heights of the Niger River, as well as information on the control of crop-destroying pests. They also decided to join efforts in the protection of nature, especially the battle against desert encroachment and poaching.

The two delegations reiterated the need for periodic contacts at all levels, both between administrative authorities and between technicians.

The Malian delegation thanked the Niger people, the Supreme Military Council, and its chairman, Brigadier Seyni Kountche and the government of the Republic of Niger for the warm and fraternal reception given it during its stay in the Republic of Niger.

Issued in Niamey on 9 May, 1986

[Signed] For the Malian side, His Excellency Lt Col Abdourahamane Maiga, minister of interior

[Signed] For the Niger side, His Excellency Amadou Fiti Maiga, minister delegate for interior

NIGERIA

Citizens Reassured on Amended Detention Decree Powers
AB092200 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 9 May 86

[Excerpt] The federal attorney general and minister of justice, Prince Bola Ajibola, has given the assurance that the amendment made to Decree 2 1984, that deals with state security will not lead to any indiscriminate arrests or detention. In an interview with State House correspondent Clement Akintomide in Lagos today, Prince Ajibola explained that the amendment was necessary so as not to abuse the rights of those detained under the decree by the previous government.

Papers Urge Governmental Review
AB130927 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 13 May 86

[From the press review]

[Text] The *NATIONAL CONCORD* and the *NIGERIAN HERALD* appeal to the Federal Government to review Decree No 2 which now empowers both the chief of General Staff and the inspector general of police to detain without trial for a period of 6 months any person considered to be working against the security of the nation. The papers describe the decree as an unpopular and an unnecessary legislation.

The *CONCORD* contends that whatever may have been the intention of the government in re-enacting the decree, it can highly be contested that such a singular act has inflicted a tremor of fear upon the citizenry.

Government Explains Ban on Trade Union Conference

AB122210 Lagos Domestic Service in English
2100 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] The Federal Government has explained why the conference of the African Transport Workers Federation, Nigerian chapter, scheduled to begin in Lagos today did not hold. The conference which is organized by the International Transport Workers Federation was halted at the instance of the Federal Government.

In a statement in Lagos today, the Federal Government regretted that despite earlier correspondence, the (?five) unions comprising the Nigerian chapter of the Federation continued with arrangements to organize the conference which was also to be sponsored by the International Transport Workers Federation. This was after the minister of employment, labor, and productivity had declined to open the conference. The minister said that consequently, he had no alternative than to take appropriate steps to stop the conference.

It had earlier informed the five unions of the decision taken in 1975 proscribing the activities of international trade union organizations and [words indistinct] in Nigeria with the exception of the International Labor Organization, the African Trade Union Unity, and any other organizations specifically approved by the government.

SIERRA LEONE

AFP: Chadian Minister Brings Habre Message

AB111054 Paris AFP in French 1511 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] Freetown, 10 May (AFP) — Chadian Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou delievered a message on Saturday to President Joseph Momoh from Mr Hissein Habre, his Chadian counterpart.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman told the AFP that Mr Lassou's visit was part of efforts being made by Chad to brief African leaders on ths situation in Chad before the next OAU summit in July. According to reports from reliable sources, Mr Lassou briefed the Sierra Leonean leader on the reasons which led to the failure of the proposed meeting in Brazzaville between Mr Hissein Habre and Mr Goukouni Oueddei which the latter did not attend.

Ministerial Meeting With Ghana Opens in Lome 12 May

AB121948 Lome Domestic Service in French
1230 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] A meeting of ministers of foreign affairs and interior of Ghana and Togo opened this morning at the Party House in Lome. The meeting, which follows other meetings already organized between our two countries, will dwell on bilateral issues aimed at consolidating peace between Ghana and Togo. The Togolese delegation to this meeting is led by Atsou Koffi Amega, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, and Kpotivi Lacle, minister of interior.

On the Ghanaian side, the delegation is led by Dr Obed Asamoah, minister of foreign affairs, and Nii Okai Adamafio, deputy minister of Interior.

Opening the meeting, Minister Amega stressed the common links that unite Ghanaians and Togolese, in whose interest it is necessary to consolidate their relations. After criticizing the growing selfishness of some countries because of economic problems, Minister Amega expressed delight at the two countries' determination to take their people out of underdevelopment.

[Begin Amega recording] The numerous problems our world is confronted with today force states, which are not careful enough, to withdraw within themselves and become very selfish. As I mentioned earlier, Ghana and Togo, who grew aware of their joint destiny at an early stage, based their relations of good-neighborliness on bilaterial, multilateral, and cultural cooperation through the exchange of students of our respective universities, and our membership in the Association of African Universities which is headquartered in your country.

In the economic sphere, our determination to raise our level of development encouraged our two states to take part in the implementation of several projects including the Cement Company of West Africa, and ECOWAS. Moreover, our membership in ECOWAS shows, if necessary, the importance that our heads of state and government attach to the development of our subregion as well as the remarkable clear-sightedness with which they saw the urgent need to build a subregional economy on a solid and realistic base.

In the political sphere, Ghana and Togo can boast of their good relations based on frequent consultations on a continent where antagonistic interests and ideological struggles often create absurd conflicts and hotbeds of tension. Whereas in other parts of the world border disputes lead to armed confrontation, we can feel proud of the wisdom of our governments in creating a Ghana-Togo joint commission for border demarcation between the two states. Very recently, in 1984, our states associated Nigeria and Benin to this commission and signed three agreements aimed at controlling and facilitating the movement of persons and goods across our borders. [End recording]

The Ghanaian secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, expressed his gratitude to the Togolese Government for convening this meeting. In Dr Asamoah's opinion, today's meeting will enable both countries to consolidate peace between them.

[Begin Asamoah recording in English followed by consecutive translation into French] This meeting is not the first of its kind. We have had several in the past, and it is in the context of regular consultations between our two governments in order to ensure peace, stability, cooperation, and regular social intercourse between our people. Whatever other frameworks of cooperation we may have, for example, in the context of quadripartite treaties, we believe that it is essential that Ghana and Togo meet regularly on a bilateral basis, and we hope that this meeting will continue the progress that we have been making at solving the problems between our two peoples. [End recording]

Talks Conclude 12 May

AB122004 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] The Ghanaian and Togolese ministers of foreign affairs and the interior met in Lome today in the framework of periodic consultations between the two countries.

According to a press communique, the ministers reviewed issues of common interest. Their talks centered on cooperation, relations of good-neighborliness, and security. The two parties also recognized the need to reactivate the various commissions they jointly created.

Finally, the two parties agreed in the frameowrk of the policy of good-neighborliness, and in the interest of the two peoples, to cooperate closely in order to consolidate the privileged relations existing between Ghana and Togo.

The next meeting of ministers of foreign affairs and the interior will take place in Accra.

ANGOLA

ANGOP Considers Namibian Independence, Cubans

MB121332 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 10 May 86

[ANGOP commentary: "Linkage Has a New (?Formula)"]

[Text] According to the international press, the racist South African minister of foreign affairs, Pik Botha, told his country's parliament that U.S. aid to the Angolan puppets might have brought the prospects of Namibian independence back to square one.

The statements of the racist minister would have come as no surprise had it not been for the subtle manner in which they seek to disguise the old and obsolete linkage [preceding word in English] policy which seeks to make attainment of Namibian independence conditional on the withdrawal of the Cuban internationalists from Angola. In fact, Botha's statements, deliberately made at a moment when an international conference on Namibia was held in Brussels, amount to the same old tune of the Cuban withdrawal from Angola, though with a difference. Now it is being claimed that the Angolan Government will insist on such a presence because of U.S. aid to the puppets.

This clear [word indistinct] maneuver enacted by the racist regime with a view to keeping international public opinion busy with [words indistinct] in the solution of the southern African problems is not fortuitous. On the one hand racist South Africa, which is becoming politically, militarily, and economically worn out in view of the support it has given UNITA since 1975, wishes at all costs to attribute to others the causes of the present impasse in the solution of the Namibian problem. Despite such a maneuver, South Africans feel more at ease in internally repressing patriots fighting with great courage against the continuation of the hideous apartheid regime. Proof of this is a recent event in Pietermaritzburg, in eastern South Africa, where an ANC group entered a hospital and released one of their fellow countrymen about to be sent to the racist dungeons. This event, occurring right under the regime's nose only 4 days before the great 1 May strike, exemplifies the agony of the racist regime in South Africa. Therefore, there are no doubts that the South African republic is a country plunged into an unprecedented crisis; its economy is going through a new and precarious phase. Its direct involvement in aggression against the People's Republic of Angola as well as its support for UNITA puppets has also cost it dearly.

Washington's assistance to UNITA, far from showing a dispute with Pretoria — and this would have been unrealistic — was to a large extent a shot in the arm trying to keep a decadent regime alive.

On the other hand, it has become clear from Pik Botha's statements that they seek to create the impression that the Angolan Government could be blamed for the delayed implementation of UN Resolution 435 on Namibia, now been set for 1 August. At least this is a conclusion that can be drawn from Botha's statements when he claims that the People's Republic of Angola has lost all interest in negotiating the withdrawal of internationalist contingents. What South Africa and its allies once again seek to achieve is an impasse in a solution to the Namibian problem.

The People's Republic of Angola, on one hand, and the Frontline States and the five Portuguese-speaking African countries, on the other, have already adopted an unequivocal stand on the matter. The presence of Cuban troops, according to the Angolan Government statement of 8 March 1986, has nothing to do with the independence of Namibia and does not constitute a threat to South Africa or any other neighbor of the People's Republic of Angola. Instead, it represents a deterrent to aggressive designs from abroad. The statement also reaffirmed Angola's goodwill in gradually withdrawing Cuban troops from southern Angola, provided that the four minimum conditions for the security of Angola and its citizens are fulfilled, namely the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of South African forces occupying a part of our territory, the immediate application of Security Council Resolution 435 leading to the true independence of Namibia, an end to all South African actions against Angola, and an end to all of logistical support for the UNITA puppet gangs.

The most recent summit of the Frontline States has also reaffirmed its rejection of the attempt to link Namibian independence to the withdrawal of Cuban internationalist forces from Angola, and condemned the present impasse in solving the Namibian question. A similar stand was adopted by the five Portuguese-speaking African countries. In fact, while stressing expectations surrounding the authentic implementation of the South African statement on Namibian independence as of 1 August 1986, the Luanda Declaration also makes an appeal to the United Staes to review its attitude in supporting organized terrorism and to unconditionally support the right of the Namibian people to self-determination and independence.

The People's Republic of Angola once again repudiates any attempt to involve new factors in the solution of the Namibia problem, which constitute a diversionary maneuver designed to perpetuate domination of the country by the racist South Africans. The People's Republic of Angola wants southern Africa to be a zone of peace and prosperity, where true cooperation among the peoples of the region and between this region and the rest of the world may prevail without discrimination or interference in the domestic affairs of the respective countries. The sole cause of the present conflict in the region and the factor that prevents the fulfillment of these principles is the outdated and obsolete apartheid regime, the abolition of which has long been a necessity. Only thus will we have peace, progress, and well-being for our peoples.

The struggle continues! Victory is certain!

UNITA Reportedly Willing To Talk With MPLA

PA121524 Paris AFP in Spanish 1504 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Lisbon, 12 May (AFP) — The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA, armed opposition to the Luanda regime), has announced "its willingness to talk with Angolan authorities with a view to national reconciliation." A

communique from the UNITA Central Committee received today by the AFP office in Lisbon which refers to a meeting held from 1 to 9 May in the "liberated territory" of Angola, states that the dialogue with the MPLA (ruling party) of Angola, must be conducive to the "formation of a government of national union and to the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Angola."

The communique signed by Jonas Savimbi, leader of the movement, and dated in Jamba (general headquarters of UNITA in southeastern Angola), warns Lusakan authorities "to put an end to the movements of Angolan and Cuban troops in Zambian territory." UNITA criticized recent statements by Brazilian President Jose Sarney during his official visit to Portugal in which he condemned foreign support of the "unconventional forces operating in Angola."

The UNITA Central Committee, the communique added, also broached the consolidation of its armed forces, "strengthened by new sophisticated means." Observers in Lisbon believe that the allusion to these "sophisticated means" may be related to the delivery of Stinger surface to air missiles from the U.S. Government.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Claims 'Bandits' Infiltrate Sofala Province

MB120735 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 10 May 86

[Text] President Samora Machel today once again stressed the strategic importance of Sofala province in the general economic development of the country. Speaking at a rally held in Beira city, the supreme leader of the Mozambican revolution pointed out that, in view of this, the enemy has infiltrated armed bandits in the province, establishing a central base for those criminals in this region of the country. At the rally, which served to transfer power from the outgoing leader of Sofala province, Marcelimo dos Santos, to the new governor, Francisco Masquil, Samora Machel stressed the responsibility of the Mozambican people as a whole in fighting armed banditry with a view to reestablishing peace and calm in the country. President Samora Machel has already returned to Maputo.

Renamo Claim of Capturing Namaacha Refuted

MB121659 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 12 May 86

["Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] MNR rebels in Mozambique claimed at the weekend to have occupied the town of Namaacha on the border with Swaziland, about 80 km west of Maputo. It is the latest in a series of claims by the MNR which usually pass without official or unofficial comment from the Mozambique authorities, but on this occasion, it seems, there is no shortage of people willing to refute the rebel claims. From Maputo, Dan Moiane cabled this report:

Reports from overseas that the MNR attacked the border town of Namaacha took residents of the town by surprise. Contacted by telephone, the management of one of the main hotels in Namaacha said that (?there was) nothing out of the ordinary that had taken place in the town. Traffic between Namaacha and Maputo has continued as normal for the past weeks, and the traffic carrying goods from neighboring Swaziland have also been moving without any apparent hitch, and no traveler has arrived in the Mozambique capital with a story to back up the MNR claim. I spoke to relatives of people living in Namaacha and the surrounding area. They expressed surprise at the MNR claims, saying that in phone calls to their relatives in Namaacha over the past week, they heard nothing of any rebel capture or even attacks on the border town. If the MNR rebels had entered Namaacha a week ago, it would have been a hard job for the Mozmabicans to hide the facts. The town is important for cross-border travelings and across the frontier the residents would surely have heard of any attacks on the town.

The official military authorities, for their part, dismissed the claims outright as lies an a conspiracy against Mozambique.

SOUTH AFRICA

Heunis Announces Government Structural Changes

MB121133 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1118 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] House of Assembly, May 12, SAPA — Wide-ranging changes to second and third tier government in South Africa, including the abolition of development boards for blacks and other local level development bodies on July 1 to coincide with the scrapping of provincial governments in their present form, were announced today. Speaking in debate on his budget allocation, the minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, announced:

— details of the abolition of provincial councils legislative authority and the introduction of "non-racially restricted" state president appointed executive authorities to deal with general affairs matters at the middle tier;
— the abolition on July 1 of the 13 development boards for black townships and the transfer of personnel to provincial administrations pending other allocations in the civil services;
— the abolition of the Transvaal Peri-Urban [perimeter-urban] board on July 1 and its incorporation into Transvaal's provincial administration;
— the eventual rationalisation of Natal's Development and Services Board with Regional Services Councils [RSC]; and
— retention of the Cape's Divisional Council System for a few years before their replacement by RSCs but a transfer of their personnel to the provincial administration on July 1.

The proposed changes to provincial and local government, described as "rationalisation of great importance," would be contained in legislation to be published soon. Altogether, about 40,000 officials would be involved in the changes but the government had committed itself to ensuring their security and job tenure. Mr Heunis said the provinces' administrations and structures would remain as they were now, but with two major

differences.

Firstly, there would be the abolition of provincial councils as elected legislatures and, secondly, there would be a "transfer of functions" to be exercised by the executive authorities. Provincial administrations would in future only deal with general affairs and the process of transferring own affairs functions of education, health, and local government had already started. Provincial administrations would continue in Cape Town, Bloemfontein, Pretoria, and Pietermaritzburg for the four provinces, with administrators and executive committees both appointed by the state president.

Because provincial administrations would now only deal with general affairs, there would be no restriction on the race groups from which members of the executive committee could be appointed. The administrators would be politically responsible to parliament and a joint standing committee would be created for this purpose. Financial responsibility would fall to the provincial secretary, who would be accountable to the standing committee on public accounts.

Other general affairs functions would be transferred to provincial administrations from central government, but specific details of this were not available yet. With provincial administrations officials incorporation into the civil service, the sphere of the civil service commission would be expanded.

Outlines Joint Executive Authority

MB121233 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1232 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] House of Assembly, May 12, SAPA -- Provision would be made in a bill to be tabled soon for any province to form a joint executive body with a self-governing national state, the minister of constitutional development and planning,Mr Chris Heunis, said today. Replying to debate on his budget vote, he also said he had received instructions from the government to devolve to the provincial level, as soon as possible, all those executive functions under his control which directly affected black people. Mr Heunis said the provincial system "as we know it" would come to an end on June 30 this year and a "more streamlined provincial system representative of all communities" would come into force.

Although the broad guidelines of the new dispensation were announced in May last year, it was only recently that decisions were taken on the details. Parliament would in future exercise overall political control of the provinces, Mr Heunis said. The appointments of the administrators and executive committees would be of a political nature "and will take careful account of the particular characteristics and population makeup of each province."

A mechanism was also provided to divide the existing provinces within the existing provincial boundaries should this prove necessary. Existing provincial officials would be transferred to the public service with effect from July 1 with protection of salaries, pension rights and accumulated leave. There should be "no disruption" in this changeover, as it was only the statutory basis for their employment which would change. The provisions of the coming bill on the re-organisation of provincial functions would ensure that they would not be penalised.

The disappearance of a legislature at provincial level would require certain changes in financial administration, and the con-stitution and the exchequer and audit act would be amended to allow for these. The provincial secretary would remain the chief official and accounting officer and, as with other heads of departments, would account to parliamentary committees. Mr Heunis said that to facilitate cooperation between provincial administrations and self-governing territories apart from Natal and KwaZulu, the bill provided for the creation of "similar joint executive bodies in other regions." To ensure that the new provincial authorities had a large measure of autonomy, a general power to issue proclamations would be vested in the administrator. Those proclamations would have to be tabled in parliament.

A theme of the bill was the government's commitment to get "the various communities in our country" as close as possible to the process of making and carrying out decisions. In line with this objective of maximum devolution of executive powers, the bill would provide for powers currently entrusted to a minister to be assigned to an administrator. There were also provisions allowing the administrator to transfer powers to third tier government.

The government had already announced that the future provincial authorities would receive "additional functions which will make them important executive organs of the government sector." Investigations were still under way on details of this devolution, and it was not possible to release much more information at present.

"As regards my own department I wish however to now make it clear that the execution of functions at present handled there will be transferred to the appropriate institutions as soon as possible. There is no good reason why most executive acts associated with the administration of the Physical Planning and Group Areas Acts should not be devolved to the provincial levels or even lower where they can be carried out closer to the community." The proposed abolition of development boards meant that about 40,000 employees would no longer fall under the control of his department. "It is also the government's intention that all executive activities which my department presently administers and which directly affect the interests of black communities, such as the administration of black local authorities, housing, welfare and socio-economic development, should as soon as possible be placed under the direct control of black political decision-makers. At the same time it is intended that these functions should be executed at a lower government level. Nothing in the new provincial system prevents members of any community from occupying positions in that system."

Mr Heunis said he had received instructions from the government to "devolve as soon as possible all those executive functions under my control which directly affect black people, to the provincial level." "The proposed provincial dispensation acknowledges that executive acts and administration find best expression in a regional context which will advance decentralized government and yet re-affirms parliament's sovereign policy-making role."

The director-general of Mr Heunis' department, Dr Andreas van Wyk, said at a press briefing today that while the proposed bill made provision for joint executive authorities between the provinces and the self-governing states, it made no provision for joint legislative authorities. While the bill would provide for a redemarcation of the provinces, no decisions had been taken on the matter. He also said that the division of health services between general and own affairs was "still being hashed out finally."

No Replacement of Influx Control
MB121449 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1446 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] House of Assembly, May 12, SAPA — The government did not intend to replace influx control with new regulations under a different name, the minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, said today. Replying to points raised during the debate on his budget vote, he said there could be "no suggestion" of such a plan. There was a difference between squatting and informal settlement. Squatting was the illegal occupation of land and would not be allowed under the government's new urbanisation policy. However, informal settlement, where people lived in homes according to their means and upgraded those dwellings gradually, would be encouraged.

Community development programmes were needed in many cases and such plans had begun in the Port Elizabeth/Uitenhage area and other parts of the eastern Cape, as well as in the Pinetown region and Crossroads, near Cape Town. The private sector would become more involved in the provison of housing, with employers helping their workers to build homes.

Report on Prepared Text of Tutu Vienna Speech
MB120515 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0006 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Vienna, May 12, SAPA — The South African press has sold its soul in exchange for immediate realisable advantages — mainly financial ones — Bishop Desmond Tutu said in a speech prepared for delivery at the International Press Institute (IPI) conference in Vienna but released in Johannesburg before his departure.

The archbishop-elect of the Anglican Church in South Africa said in the opening address of the IPI conference that it is his contention "that the white English and Afrikaans press is guilty...of having abandoned its birthright for a mess of pottage."

Calling it the "Esau complex" after the old testament account of the brothers Jacob and Esau in which the latter sold his birthright for an immediate need to be satisfied, Bishop Tutu said this complex refers to a penchant to work for short term interests while "foolishly abandoning a longterm advantage." He said the longterm advantage abandoned by the press in South Africa could not immediately be envisaged and probably involved considerable inconvenience, and "you cannot as it were put a price to it."

"Our South African press... the white English and Afrikaans press — is guilty by an large of having abandoned its birthright for a mess of pottage. (It is) investing its considerable resources in serving shortsightedly short term interests and quite irresponsibly seems to have lost of longterm concerns. It may seem to be a harsh judgment, but it is not hyperbolic to state... that our South African press has done a Dr Faustus on us, it has sold its soul in exchange for immediate advantages, mainly financial ones, which goes hand in glove with with popularity in the white community," he said.

Bishop Tutu said he qualified his generalisation by using words such as "by and large" and "on the whole" since it would otherwise give the impression that all SA newspapers have been "totally spineless... and guilty of this disservice to the SA community." He said there had been some newspapers, of which one or two are still in existence, which had been true to the "best traditions of outstanding journalism."

He mentioned by name the now defunct *RAND DAILY MAIL* and the *SUNDAY EXPRESS* as well as the *DAILY DISPATCH* and the *SUNDAY TIMES* when it had been under the editorship of Joel Merwis. He mentioned by name also editors of the other above mentioned papers such as Laurence Gandar, Ray Louw Allistair Sparks, and Donald Woods. Woods, who was eventually banned and fled South Africa and is now living in exile, probably found himself in this situation because of his "persistent enquiries" into the "mysterious" death of black consciousness leader Steve Biko, Bishop Tutu said. He singled out the *SUNDAY TIMES* under editorshop of Joel Merwis for its coverage of the "info scandal" and the *RAND DAILY MAIL* for its "persistence" which led to a judicial inquiry into the shootings at Langa last year — an inquiry which brought to light that the account given initially by the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, was "less than accurate."

Bishop Tutu said the latter inquiry showed that the South African Police in a quarter of a century had learned "precious little of crowd control." "Even in eastern bloc countries such as Poland the police are able to deal with rioting crowds without inflicting hardly mortal injuries. In South Africa is has seemed that since black lives are cheap, it did not really matter how much fatalities took place," he said.

Speaking on the fact that the South African press is a great deal more freer than most other countries on the African continent, he said it was a "deliberately cultivated aberration by the South African authorities who have wanted the outside world to believe that things were not so bad." "It is a phenomenon much like the South African ploy of declaring our government to be rabidly anticommunistic or to dub black freedom fighters terrorists, knowing that in the West the reaction to these buzz words is throughly Pavlovian. It is all part of a carefully cultivated public relations exercise," Bishop Tutu said.

He described the more than 100 laws by which the SA press is "hamstrung" as a "veritable minefield" and said, as he mentioned among the examples how official comment was needed on matters of security and the police force, that such a method might give the specific agency time to "cover up their tracks" and asked how it was possible to probe allegations of police brutality under

such conditions. He also said the SA public is kept in "dangerous ignorance" about the views of someone like Nelson Mandela who may not be quoted but who is a "crucial factor determining what sort of country we will have come liberation." "What I am at some pains to stress is that our press, or certain sections of it, do have to be commended for seeking to uphold the glorious traditions of a free press. Some editors and other journalists have paid a heavy price to keep the public informed. The SA Government has kept making ominous noises about furhter curbs on the press. So you realise that your colleagues in South Africa labour under quite formidable handicaps," the bishop told the IPI.

Further Report

MB120530 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0031 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Vienna, May 12, SAPA — South African newspapers tend to identify their immediate interests with white interests and not with the longterm interests of the nation as a whole, the archbishop-elect of Cape Town said in a speech prepared for the opening address of the International Press Institute [IPI] in Vienna. Bishop Desmond Tutu of Johannesburg released his address to SAPA before his departure to Canada for a visit to an Anglican Church meeting there en route to Vienna.

In his address Bishop Tutu re-iterated remarks recently made in South African when he addressed a conference on the "Church in Crisis" about the difference in perspectives and experiences of whites and blacks, but constantly referred to the role of the media in forming or challenging these differences. The media is "constantly serving sectional interests even though their disclaimers to the contrary will be vehement and loud," he said. This tragedy is compounded by the fact that the electronic media represnted in SA by the SABC is "really an extension of the propaganda arm of the Nationalist Party." He recounted the recent criticism aimed at the SABC by the Afrikaans Johannesburg daily *DIE VADERLAND* — "which could be said to come from the same stable" — and the SABC response which called into question the patriotism of the newspaper instead of responding to the accusation by refuting the charges, in in the bishop's view. "Anything goes where patriotism is concerned, including lying or not exactly telling the truth," Bishop Tutu said. He said he was "deeply saddened to see how our newspapers which should be our salvation ... serve us so ill ... given the fact that the SABC would not know what to do with the truth if ti stared it in the face."

Having earlier in his speech said that the SA English and Afrikaans press has sold its soul for immediate advantages which are mainly financial, he said it was "distressing" to see how the newspaper dealt with the disinvestment issue. He levelled criticism at the fact that most opponents to disinvestment are whites and that they are motivated not by fear of personal consequences but said "blacks will suffer so much" — a motivation which he is sceptical about. He added that the newspapers do not then "describe the true reality."

Bishop Tutu contended that whites viewed all criticism against South Africa, even by South Africans, in the context of patrotism — "a patriotism very narrowly conceived." "Very few in the white community want to be labelled unpatriotic ... and I think the white newspapers because of financial considerations have to pander to these pseudo patriotic feelings among whites. They are then telling white people what they masochistically want to hear: that they are an embattled people and that there is a hostile world out there which is going to be satisfied with nothing less than ... the whites to be replaced by a black Marxist revolutionary regime. It is just another aspect of the white laager mentally at work," he said. He said most whites believe SA is in the "throes of rapid change in our land and this leaves them all rather breathless." He said that blacks dismissed the changes as "peripheral to their major concern or as being merely cosmetic" — sentiments which gets many whites "hot under the collar."

He re-iterated the difference in perceptions, illustrating this with the differences in life-styles especially during the state of emergency when he saw whites playing tennis on flood-lit courts at night while blacks regularly experience roadblocks, armoured vehicles in the townships, birdshot, live ammunition and teargas. Having said that in South Africa "you caould say with a generalisation with substantial validity that we have a deeply polarised society between white and black" to such an extent that the groups are so separated that it could be said they inhabit different planets, Bishop Tutu added: "Apartheid has succeeded with devastating effect to make us aliens to one another." "We are really world's apart with hardly any communication work mentioning ... Whites know little about black anger which makes black youths believe they could die before liberation came — and frighteningly not caring ... The white community was naturally frightened. If I was white I would be frightened too."

He referred to political power sharing — the only fundamental change acceptable to blacks — and said if he was white he would need "considerable grace" to oppose a sociopolitical and economic system with such substantial privileges (for whites). He praised God for the many whites who do oppose apartheid.

He returned to the media's role where there is such a "serious breakdown in communications" between people living in the same land and whose continued survival depended on the acceptance that they had to co-exist. "A far heavier responsibility then lies with the media to provide the means of that much needed communication, more so than in normal societies," he said.

On special black editions of white newspapers, he had this to say: "Sadly many of us felt that items of news which featured in the black edition should have been published for white readership but often they did not feature in the white edition." White newspapers, he said, have "by and large fallen down very badly in executing this formidable communications exercise." He said with the demise of the *RAND DAILY MAIL* this position has become worse and that the gap is perhaps being filled to a limited extent by the year-old *WEEKLY MAIL*.

He again said those papers which try to describe the "harsh realities of SA .. have either been closed or are in grave danger of closure which makes those that survive even more eager to serve white interests." "These newspapers fear that if they consistently told whites in an unambiguous way that the problem was (nowhere else) but here in South Africa, they would (have) put paid to their chances of succeeding financially."

Bishop Tutu said these newspapers did not seem to believe that the "present dispensation is on the skids" and that there may be a "day of reckoning when every institution and everybody will be judged harshly about whether they advanced or hindered the liberation process." He re-iterated that in this respect most white newspapers have done a grave disservice to the people in not helping whites "to prepare for the inevitable."

He also spoke of what he called the "need" to have an enemy and said "some of us have helped fit the bill." He said he has been identified by the newspapers as public enemy number one and almost all (newspapers) have found the shortcut to popularity with their readership is to do a bit of "Tutu-bashing." "These papers do not point out what we actually do — without being big-headed about it, we stand between our motherland and disaster — nor that many of the young impatient blacks think we are obstacles to the revolution." He said that when he speaks out against violence, including black-on black killings, some black youngsters reject this stand. "He (Tutu) is always stopping us finishing what we have started," he said in quoting the black youths' rejection of a non-violent stand.

Saying he does not mind even harsh criticism, he nevertheless singled out a national English Sunday paper for "peddling stuff (that is) vicious and belongs in the gutter press" on reports relating to himself and the recent elections of his church of its new archbishop. "...The disgrace to journalism is that such despicable attempts should have been made (in attempting to influence the outcome of the elections)," he said.

He added that reading SA newspapers it could be thought that SA was going through a period of calm and stability, while an average of three people have died daily in unrest-related incidents and troops are being used against the civilian population, children are boycotting schools and the Rand has been "battered daily and business confidence is plummeting." What we have on SA front pages are descriptions of a rebel rugby tour telling whites things are back to normal and makes them believe the sports boycott has been breached, he said. "We can have these hulks gambolling on our playing fields and no one need know that people are being petrol-bombed by vigilante groups which appear to be functioning with the connivance or active support of the police. That even children are being detained and on the admission of the SA ambassador in London (Dr Dennis Worral) some are tortured ... (a) damning and quite horrendous admission. It is the worst case of 'out of sight, out of mind.' But it is dangerous ... a situation will not go away just because you ignore it. And yet our papers delude our people in thinking that that is so. And so they are lulled into a false sense of security and you won't be thanked for awakening them out of it, and our papers are loathe to do this because they may lose advertising and go under," Bishop Tutu said.

He mentioned the bias of the media during the 15-year bush war in Zimbabwe which left white Rhodesian totally unprepared for and "devastated" at the election victory of Mr Robert Mugabe over the media favourite Bishop Abel Muzorewa. "We seem to experience a deja vu situation. Nearly all the white media is determined to champion the cause of a certain political leader ... the higher his stock with the white community, the lower he sinks in the estimation of most blacks," Bishop Tutu said. "They refuse to accept that in a free election Nelson Mandela is going to win hands down without having uttered a word in more than twenty years."

"And so you weep for your motherland which has such a tremendous potential to be great, which has some wonderful people, black and white, who intend to see the birth of a new South Africa come about and who give you great hope for the future of our motherland. From all this you will realise that I have the highest regard for a free, fair and courageous press and just wish to goodness that our white newspapers would awake to the tremendous service they could render our country if they stopped trying to be Esau" (in reference to the Esau complex he mentioned earlier), Bishop Tutu ended his address to the IPI.

Editors Defend Positions

MB121721 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1707 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Johannesburg, May 12, SAPA — Editors of some Johannesburg daily newspapers, approached today by SAPA to comment on Bishop Desmond Tutu's charge that the white English and Afrikaans press is doing nothing to bridge the gulf in communication between the black and white communities, defended their positions.

Bishop Tutu, speaking to the International Press Institute's annual conference this morning in Vienna, said, among other things, that the white press in South Africa "has sold its soul" for immediate advantages which are mainly financial. He also said this press told its white readers only what it wanted to hear, forgetting that there might one day be a "day of judgment" when all will be asked what they had done to hinder or encourage the "liberation process."

Acting Editor-in-Chief of *THE STAR*, Mr Rex Gibson, said: "I can only speak for *THE STAR* which I believe is doing an effective job of acting as a bridge between black and white but not a perfect one. We constantly strive to improve that communication. I believe that better newspapers in South Africa also seek those aims." On the issue that important news items in black editions are often not found in "white" editions — a factor also criticised by Bishop Tutu, Mr Gibson said: "*THE STAR*'s policy is that important news, especially political news, should appear with roughly similar prominence in all editions."

BUSINESS DAY editor Mr Ken Owen responded by saying: "All newspapers tend to give expression to the perceptions and convinctions of the communities they serve. I am sure that if Bishop Tutu is right he and his community will in time produce newspapers to give expression to their perceptions and convictions. They will then not need to rely on the media which he criticises."

The editor of Johannesburg's Afrikaans daily, *BEELD*, is at present on leave and could not be reached for comment, while the another Nasionale Press [National Press] editor, Mr W. Beukes of *DIE BURGER* in Cape Town, declined to comment and said through his secretary that he would do so in his own newspaper.

Preskors [Press Corporation] editor of *DIE VADERLAND*, Mr Harald Pakendorf, however, commented by saying among other things that it was true that there was a communications gap between the different communities. "Bishop Tutu is asking for something that is not easy to realise in practice. Newspapers have a specific market which it addresses — in the case of *DIE VADERLAND* it is the Afrikaans readership." He said however that his paper also dealt with both legitimate as non-legitimate demands of the black community in making these known as well as dealing with the situation blacks find themselves in. "It may be so that we are not doing it fully enough. But I doubt whether Bishop Tutu reads *VADERLAND* so regularly that he could judge the situation. However, accepting Tutu's criticism I wonder why he finds it impossible to turn inwards and ask the obvious question: What is the black press doing to explain the white situation to its black readers?" The answer is that it is doing nothing. In fact you can read nothing about the white society in the black press whereas you can read a great deal of the black society in the white press. "However, this is not an accusation aimed at Bishop Tutu but should rather be seen as a question to which we should all address ourselves — and that is how to we address the communication gap between whites and blacks. Admittedly though, there is no black press in the sense that there are blacks owning black newspapers. Had this been so, I guess we would have found an even blacker black voice than we do at the moment and that too should concern us as much as it concerns Bishop Tutu," Mr Pakendorf said.

Nel Says Report on Alexandra 'Exaggerated'

MB121806 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1756 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Cape Town, May 12, SAPA — Reports that Alexandra township was tense and simmering during a crime prevention drive by the security forces at the weekend were exaggerated, the deputy minister of information, Mr Louis Nel, said in a statement today. Officials from the Bureau for Information had been present during the drive, and on the basis on their report he wanted to congratulate the security forces, who had acted in a restrained, calm and friendly manner. This was borne out by the cooperation and the peaceful mood of the residents of Alexandra throughout the operation.

It was clear that claims by the Alexandra Action Committee that they were in complete control of the area were false and mere propaganda. Judging from certain newspaper reports following the operation it is clear that a propaganda campaign is now again being waged against the security forces. In these reports it is alleged that the township was besieged, that it was sealed off, and that the situation was tense and simmering. One report even referred to Alexandra as resembling a war zone. These statements are exaggerated. Alexandra was not sealed off — residents could freely move in and out of the area. The township was not besieged and a calm atmosphere prevailed during the operation. It is also not true that taxis were not allowed to operate and that the taking of photographs was prohibited. In fact special failities were made available for the media to accompany the security forces and to obtain first-hand and on-the-spot information, including photographs.

Mr Nel said the influence of radicals had now notably been restricted. Although the operation had been scaled down since the weekend, the security forces would remain in the area for as long as necessary.

General Malan Dismisses Rumors of Attack

MB121555 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1545 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] House of Representatives, May 12, SAPA — Rumours of a conventional military assault on South Africa between June 16 and 20 this year were "nonsense," the minister of defence, General Magnus Malan, said today. Speaking in his vote of the budget, he said that for purely military and logistical reasons, such an attack was highly unlikely in the foreseeable future. However, people who engaged in these types of rumour should not think that the defence force was unprepared or incapable of dealing with a conventional threat.

The SADF had been engaged in conventional and semi-conventional warfare for the past 20 years and had not once come out of an operation with a "bloody nose." He said the Republic of South Africa was facing the most vehement and wide ranging onslaught in its existence but it was not a revolution. Those who contended that a revolution was underway either did so for their own propaganda purposes or were ignorant of the conditions in South Africa.

However, a revolutionary conflict was being instigated from beyond the country's borders. In these circumstances the SADF had to create "protective mechanisms" so that the political, social and evolutionary processes could continue. "I believe that this political process has to be expediated to defuse the attacks of our enemies and their instruments."

The Soviet Union had gained a foothold in Angola from which to give support to SWAPO and the ANC. In the past few years it had increased its influence in Angola where between 40,000 and 50,000 surrogates were now deployed. This meant that with the Angolan army, 140,000 troops were now in the area.

South Africa, on the other hand, had repeatedly stated it was not interested in the territory or any other country and the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, had suggested the formation of a joint security body to control regional conflict in southern Africa. Russia had responded by increasing its surrogates in Angola by 5000 to 10,000. Angola was now "awash" with sophisticated weaponry including aircraft and radar networks aimed at preventing South Africa attacking SWAPO bases.

'Struggle' Must Expand to Encompass White Areas

EA121249 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 11 May 86

[Station commentary: "A Call to Take the Battle to the White Suburbs"]

[Text] Compatriots, for nearly 2 years now we have kept the momentum of struggle in our country unabated. Through con-

certed struggle and sacrifice we have maintained the offensive against the apartheid regime, rendering vast parts of our country, particularly the black townships and ghettos, ungovernable, and the apartheid system unworkable. In these months we have suffered a heavy toll on our part and also on many of our patriots and leaders from the bullets, truncheons, and batons of the heavily armed fascist troops and police.

Today, there is death everywhere in our country. More and more funerals of our patriots in townships have bred more and more funerals. Our townships have been sealed off and brutal massacres unleashed on us by the Pretoria troops. Townships like Alexandra, Kagiso, Mamelodi, Athlone, Crossroads, Lingelihle, Craddock, Guguletu, Nyanga, KwaNobuhle, Soweto, and now Tembisa have seen fierce long-running street battles between our people's defence committees, our youths and students armed only with petrol bombs, and the fascists' heavily armed troops and police.

We have seen the 6-day war of Alexandra, the Trojan horse massacre of Athlone in Cape Town and other scenes of brutal massacres, all taking place in our black townships. All taking place far from the eyes of our white compatriots who are still deluded into believing that all is well in our country. The flames that have been smoldering for the past 20 odd months in the black townships have not made any much sense to them than just that they are sporadic wildcat actions of black radicals.

The fascist regime has continued to hide the truth from our white compatriots deceiving them into believing that it can still continue to safeguard their white privileges and their undemocratic rule of our country. The regime has managed to carry out massacres for 6 days in Alexandra without our white compatriots knowing the real truth of the brutality committed by this regime that they continue to support, in a township that is only a street away from them.

The brutal shootings at Munsieville and other townships by white vigilantes and police have all been hidden away from the eyes of our white compatriots. They continue to live in a dream world while the black townships are in flames. This false illusion of believing that their future lies in the defence of the white minority rule at all cost must now be exploded and be wiped out of the minds of (? the white community). It is our responsibility, countrymen, to awaken our white compatriots from this dream world. The time has come for our white compatriots to know the real truth of what is happening in their backyards in the black townships, where they are safely kept away from [word indistinct]. They cannot continue living in an oblivion when the world is (? falling) all around them. Now is the time for us to make all efforts to make it impossible for the apartheid regime to continue maintaining the war only in the townships. The war must now be taken into the white areas of our country. The arena of battle must now be not only Alexandra, not only Kagiso, not only (Kwindiza) and Soweto and Guguletu, not only Crossroads and Athlone, but must now be centered on Lower Loteni, Johannesburg and other areas like See Point, Cape Town, Durban and all the suburbs where our white compatriots are being safely kept away from knowing what is happening in their own country.

The time has now come, countrymen, for our white compatriots too to be involved in the struggle for the creation of a new democratic nonracial South Africa. They, too, must now be part of this fight to rid our country of the evil scourge of apartheid. They must be made to realise that apartheid will never end on its own. The Nationalist Party's reform package is not aimed at abolishing white minority rule and establishing a democratic South Africa but to entrench this evil apartheid and white minority rule, to perpetuate the repression and oppression of the black people of the country. This is why, on our part, we the black people, will never be satisfied by anything else (? that) Botha can (? come about with) as so-called reforms so as long as he does not address himself to the central and fundamental issue of political power in our country.

So long as he refuses to become realistic and accepts our right to govern ourselves, too, so long will the struggle will [as heard] continue till we finally defeat him and his illegal regime. There is no other way out. There is no middle road. Our white compatriots have a role to play in shortening the suffering that our country is going through as a result of the obstinacy and obduracy of the Pretoria rulers.

This they have to realize and we, the oppressed black people, must now take it upon ourselves to awaken them and bring them onto our side. To mobilize them to stand side by side with us in defeating this monster that is bleeding our country to death. Now is the time, countrymen, to take the struggle into the white areas for that is the only way that will bring the reality of our country to them to see.

New Group To Protect 'Law-Abiding' Blacks

MB121622 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1558 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Krugersdorp, May 12, SAPA — A mysterious and secret organization purporting to protect rights of law-abiding blacks surfaced in the west Rand this morning when leaflets introducing the organization to the black public were distributed throughout the black residential areas. An organization calling itself the "Brotherhood of Blacks" said in the leaflet that it was responsible for its distribution to make it publicly known that it was in existence. The leaflets were anonymous and had no address. The organization says its aim is to protect "our moderate brothers" against comrades, necklaces, stayaways and all political activists.

Convenience Store Strike Settlement Announced

MB130516 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0234 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] Johannesburg, May 13, SAPA — The Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union of SA hammered out an agreement with Pick'n'Pay management this morning under which a R85 per month across-the-board increase was finally settled to bring to an end the strike at the supermarket chain. Announcing the agreement, Pick'n'Pay's personnel director, Mr Rene de Wet, said the increase would be effective from March 1 this year. The agreement came at the end of negotiations which continued to this morning since yesterday afternoon. Workers

went on strike to back demands for a R90 per month across-the-board wage increase.

"The wage dispute between Pick'n'Pay and the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union of South Africa was successfully resolved," Mr de Wet said in a statement to SAPA. The company is pleased that the resolution of the wage dispute came about at the negotiating table and considers the settlement to be confirmation that negotiation can eventually triumph over violence and industrial strife." He said all stores would be trading normally from today.

Sao Tome Resistance Group Asks S. African Help

MB091018 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1005 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Walvis Bay, May 9, SAPA — The National Resistance Front of Sao Tome (NRFST) would accept military aid from South Africa and training by the Angolan rebel movement UNITA to depose the communist government of the Sao Tome president, Mr Pinto da Costa, a spokesman for the NRFST said in Walvis Bay today. The spokesman, Mr Sergio Cortoso, 25, arrived with 75 other NRFST members in the South African port enclave on the SWA/Namibian coast on Wednesday last week after they had been given hours to leave the Cameroon on April 19. The 76 refugees spent 12 days at sea in a 50-foot fishing vessel, the Tindon, which carries a Libreville registration, L1112. For the last five days of their voyage, they were without food and water, and when South African naval vessels found them they were drifting helplessly on the Atlantic Ocean off Walvis Bay without fuel and with no radio contact.

Mr Cordoso told reporters today that they were awaiting a message from their leader, Mr Manuel Alfonso Rosario dos Santos, who was "somewhere in Europe" and was in contact with the South African Government, who was considering whether to let them stay. The regional representative of the department of home affairs, Mr F. Gibson, said he did not know when a final decision would be taken on the future of the 76 men, who were virtually all without travel documents. It was also not known whether any conditions would be attached if they were allowed to stay, either in South Africa or in SWA/Namibia. Mr Cordoso said the NRFST leadership had been in contact with UNITA leaders in Portugal.

Asked whether the NRFST would wage an armed struggle against the Sao Tome Government, Mr Cordoso said "our dream is to get (military) assistance, but if the South African Government says no, we will not get help from other African countries."

Mr Cordosa said the refugees still remembered conditions in Sao Tome before their island republic off the African west coast was granted independance by Portugal in 1975. The main objective of NRFST was to restore the economy of Sao Tome to a free-market system, and to oust foreigners from their country, including Angolan soldiers, Cubans,and Russians. Mr Cordosa said there about 100,000 people in Sao Tome and "the people are waiting for us." There were about 450 members of the NRFST outside Sao Tome who were scattered in various countries. The NRFST leader, Mr Dos Santos, had been sent a telegram from the refugees at Walvis Bay.

Police Issue Unrest Situation Reportst

7 PM, 12 May

MB121720 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1719 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Pretoria, May 12, SAPA — Following is SAP 7pm unrest report.

"The following incidents of unrest were reported during the day:
"At Kanyamazane near Nelspruit a man was arrested for an incident that occurred yesterday (1986-05-11) when a house was set alight.
"At Guguletu near Goodwood in the Cape, unknown blacks in a vehicle shot at a policeman in his private vehicle. No one was injured or arrested.
"At Soweto (WWR) [Witwatersrand], two vehicles were destroyed and another damaged by arsonists. The SAP used tear smoke when a private vehicle was stoned. Other incidents occurred where private vehicles were stoned.
"Near White River on the Numbi road, three vehicles were stoned at seperate occasions. No injuries were reported.
"At Zolani near Ashton in the Boland, two dwellings were slightly damaged by arsonists.
"Minor incidents occurred when vehicles were stoned at Daviton (Benoni) and Bonteheuwel (Cape Town)
"At Machadodorp in the eastern Transvaal, youths attempted to set a lorry alight. The owner of the vehicle defended himself and his vehicle. He stabbed one of his attackers with a knife and arrested him afterwards. In another incidents the home of a policeman was extensively damaged by arsonists. A man was fatally wounded when the SAP used tear smoke and shotgun fire to disperse a mob when a police vehicle were stoned. Three private vehicles were damaged by arsonists. During one of the incidents the SAP used tear smoke to disperse a mob.
"At Bellville South coloured residential area near Cape Town, the SA used tear smoke to disperse a mob when a wall surrounding a school were damaged.
"At Tanga near Nelspruit the SAP dispersed a mob with sjamboks when a mob gathered illegally.
"At New Brighton near PE [Port Elizabeth], a recreation hall was damaged when it was petrol-bombed."

End report

13 May

MB130708 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0703 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] Pretoria, May 13, SAPA — Following is the 8am unrest situation report as supplied by the SA Police Directorate of Public Relations in Pretoria:

"Arson and stonethrowing occurred in various townships yesterday afternoon and late evening. Two blacks, one an 11-year-old boy, were seriously injured by rioters in two of these incidents.
"Daveyton on the east Rand experienced sporadic incidents of

stonethrowing and illegal gatherings. Police twice made use of tearsmoke to disperse rioting groups. A policeman also fired shots when a group of blacks tried to overturn his vehicle. No injuries were reported.

"In Soweto on the Witwatersrand a group of blacks stoned a police vehicle. One black man was arrested in the incident. In a second incident, a private vehicle was totally destroyed after being set alight by a group of blacks.

"On the west Rand arsonists caused extensive damage to a school in Boipatong while a shop in Sebokeng was also extensively damaged after being set alight.

"In the eastern Transvaal, a delivery vehicle and a shop were extensively damaged in the Emjindini township near Barberton, after being petrol-bombed by black rioters.

"At Umlazi near Durban an 11-year-old black boy sustained serious burnwounds when a group of blacks attacked and petrol-bombed a policeman's house.

"A black man, the driver of a vehicle, was seriously injured when his vehicle was stoned by a group of blacks in Mamelodi near Pretoria yesterday afternoon.

"In the Lingilihle township near Cradock, police once fired tearsmoke when dispersing a stonethrowing mob.

"At Dorrington near Fort Beaufort, police also had to fire tearsmoke to disperse stonethrowers and at Joza near Grahamstown a private house was set alight with a petrol bomb. One black man was arrested in the incident.

"In Duncan Village near East London, police fired birdshot to disperse a group of stonethrowers and arrested two men in the incident."

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

[Editorial Report]

Nuclear Power Program Frozen

Johannesburg *THE SUNDAY STAR* in English for 11 May reports on page 1 that South Africa's nuclear power program has been frozen until at least the end of the century, giving Natal a reprieve from the prospect of a nuclear station being built on its picturesque north coast. A "well-placed source" has conceded that had the accidents at Three Mile Island and Chernobyl occurred before South Africa embarked on its nuclear power program, the reactor at Koeberg might not have been built. An ESCOM [Electricity Supply Commission] spokesman said "the decision to freeze the nuclear power programme was taken some time before the Chernobyl accident." "It is apparent," the report says, "that official thinking has reverted to the lines of using the country's enormous coal resources for future power stations."

Farmers Prepare for War

A report on page 2 says farmers from Steelpoort in the northeastern Transvaal are "swallowing hard — and preparing for 'all-out war.' " There are no laborers to pick their fields of cotton. The farmers "seem genuinely perplexed at the attitudes of once-loyal labourers who are now frequently hostile." "The farmers claimed 'ANC pamphlets' had recently been distributed demanding minimum wages for the labourers of not less than R5 a day. *THE SUNDAY STAR* established that the average wage for farm labourers in Steelpoort is about R2 a day." UDF sources deny any knowledge of farmers being forced to buy ANC or UDF permits, "but the UDF has made no secret of the fact that it has been attempting to politicise farm workers in the area over the past few months and encouraging them to demand fair treatment from their employers."

Boost for Aeronautics Industry

South Africa's military aeronautics industry is poised for a boost with the unveiling of a sophisticated aircraft, a report on page 6 says. The final model has been completed for the Eyrie, a remote-controlled attack and reconnaissance aircraft with a wingspan of 4.88 meters. "Specially modified, it can also detect radiation and has equipment capable of nuclear, bacteriological, and chemical sampling." It also has "low heat output, to avoid heat-seeking missiles; an almost-silent engine, a fibreglass body and low-contrast camouflage. The Eyrie carries four 70 mm rockets and three cameras."

ANC Talks Urged

Writing in a column on page 11, John d'Oliveira says President Botha "has nothing to lose (except a few right-wing supporters) by cutting through the Gordian Knot of South African politics and agreeing to a Cabinet delegation talking to the ANC — without any preconditions — about what is needed to stop the violence." "Sooner or later, Mr Botha (or his representatives) must talk to the ANC. The sooner it happens, the better it will be for all of us and, if it happens on Mr Botha's initiative, the better it will be for him. If Mr Botha balks at unconditional talks with the ANC, let him at least talk to Nelson Mandela." "If Mr Botha and Mr Mandela could talk together, man-to-man, about possible compromises that might alleviate the unhappy situation in this country, it would send signals which would improve the credibility of Mr Botha's reform programme and which might open doors to further discussions."

Hope for EPG Visit

In an editorial on page 14 *THE SUNDAY STAR* says "it is all too easy to clutch at straws of hope, but in a sense South Africa stands at a watershed this week. The critical moment comes with a new visit by the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group [EPG] starting on Tuesday. Improbably, the EPG emerges as a means of getting the Government and the ANC into a negotiating situation." Unbanning the ANC and releasing Mandela "are no longer the outlandish ideas they once were." "On both sides of the EPG-Pretoria dealings complex games of bluff and double-bluff are afoot; the path remains strewn with obstacles. Yet there is no better alternative in view except more of the same dreadful cycle of violence, near-anarchy in the townships, near-police state repression, near-paralysis of the Government. On this score alone, the EPG's flicker of hope deserves to flourish."

Doubts About Bill of Rights

Writing on page 14 of *THE SUNDAY STAR*, Dennis Davies, associate law professor at the University of Cape Town, says "there is a deeply held belief in influential political groups that a Bill of Rights is but another method of preserving white leadership, this time in the form of a veto over any actions of a Parliament in which whites would not have a majority of the votes." Not surprisingly, therefore the view exists that any Bill of Rights introduced unilaterally by the government to be used "not to extend democratic freedoms but to protect group rights (meaning whites' rights to separate schools and separate residen-

tial areas) would have little chance of contributing to the attainment of a peaceful political equilibrium." However, if all interested political parties, including the ANC, could negotiate on a bill, "it is possible that agreement could be reached on a document having genuine legitimacy and popular acceptance."

Bill of Rights Could Attack Apartheid

Writing on the same page, political correspondent David Breier says University of South Africa constitutional lawyer Professor Marinus Wiechers believes "a Bill of Rights for South Africa is on the cards and will play a vital role in destroying remaining apartheid laws such as group areas, separate schools and race classification as well as detention without trial." "He said the expected Bill of Rights would not be a meaningless piece of paper but would form the base for an attack on remaining apartheid laws through judicial review." "Professor Wiechers said the constitution itself could probably not be directly attacked by a Bill of Rights but it could be indirectly attacked in a piecemeal fashion if the courts questioned the laws on which the constitution was founded, especially race classification on which representation in Parliament was based." But "he said it wrong to think of a Bill of Rights as an instant cure for all South Africa's ills. 'A Bill sets a target. It is something to aim at, like the Ten Commandments,' he said."

'Disinformation' Campaign

David Breier writes on page 13 of *THE SUNDAY STAR* "Review" section that "if we are to believe all the signals from London and Cape Town over the past week or two, Nelson Mandela will be released, the African National Congress will be unbanned, the South African Government will talk to the ANC, and all our problems will be over." Why do these great expectations abound? "What is happening is a complex and subtle campaign of disinformation and creative public relations by the British Government, the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group [EPG] and the South African Government. Each wants to achieve certain clear short-term goals over the next few months." The South African Government wants to avoid further economic sanctions. It is not trade with the Commonwealth that matter so much but trade with Britain "which is vital for South Africa and important to Britain." How do the two avoid being precipitated by the EPG into sanctions? "By making South Africa seem as reasonable as possible and no longer the intransigent government of old." South Africa "is therefore taking a new softer line in public on the ANC. The EPG wants to put pressure on South Africa to talk to the ANC, so it, too, is advertising an imminent breakthrough. Optimists hope that between the two, a miracle could happen and the Government could really begin talking to the ANC." But the bubble could burst. If the EPG report is against sanctions South Africa could revert to ANC-Bashing politics. If the EPG recommends sanctions at any time unless the government talks to the ANC, then South Africa's bluff will have been called. The EPG's upcoming visit could be aimed at "trying to sift the bluff and double bluff from the truth." For while rumors of negotiation are in the air, the reality is different. The minister of law and order asked, after the ANC had sprung one its cadres from the hospital in a shootout, how South Africa could negotiate with such people.

'Ku Klux Klan' Action

The "Sullivan on Sunday" column on page 14 of *THE SUNDAY STAR* "Review" section says "a breath of wonderfully fresh air is blowing through the National Party's Cabinet room." "It is almost as if Ministers have been released from the strait jacket of that silly apartheid policy which made our politics mad for so many years." Noting Foreign Minister Pik Botha's statement on power-sharing and Education Minister Gerrit Viljoen's statement that he would be happy to have a black taking his place in the cabinet, the column says nevertheless "among all this good, clean and fresh wind in politics, there is a foul and evil stench. It is the emergence of Ku Klux Klan action in South Africa." "It makes much sense, this call by the people of Alexandra, for whites to go to the township to see the police in action at first hand, and to place themselves between the besieged community and the police and the army. What the people of Johannesburg should do is swap their homes with the people of Alexandra for just one week." "It would do wonders for understanding in this, Johannesburg's 100th year."

Lack of Business Confidence

Progressive Federal Party Member of Parliament Harry Schwarz, writing on the same page, says "after applying policies which reduced consumer demand and fixed investment expenditure, increased bankruptcies and created mass unemployment which fueled unrest, now the Government is expressing its concern that the much needed upswing in the economy is not showing adequate signs of life." The newly announced monetary growth targets mean little when the increase in the money supply is below the aggregate of the current rate of inflation and growth in the domestic product. "The reality is that the low level in increase in the money supply (particularly M3) is because there is little investor or consumer confidence." "And are we not forgetting that an important reason for the lack of business and consumer confidence is the continuing unrest?" "Whether we like it or not, politics and economics go hand in hand and nothing is worse than political instability." There is a lack of confidence and "confidence cannot be artifically created by juggling with interest rates or giving a few cosmetic tax concessions." "There must be a return to stability, internal unrest must be seen to be waning. This means, too, confidence that those who rule us have workable plans for long-term political solutions."

Zimbabwean Lessons for RSA

In his "Africa View" column on page 20 of the "Review" section, Gerald L'Ange says "ever since white rule in Rhodesia gave way to black rule in Zimbabwe, whites in South Africa have tended to look across the Limpopo for portents of what might lie ahead for them." Not everything they see will ease their fears — certainly not the latest statements by Prime Minister Mugabe reiterating his government's intention to scrap the parliamentary seats reserved for whites in the independence constitution. Mr Mugabe's obsession with achieving political uniformity in Zimbabwe is an approach popular among African governments trying to forge viable states out of the ethnic jumbles left by the colonial powers. The autocratic, one-party state appeals to African politicians as an effective tool for homogenizing the multiple tribes that inhabit most of the former colonies. "Because eliminating tribal differences is vital to this approach, it tends not to attach importance to protection of minorities. It is an approach supported by the African National Congress, which has called for a united, non-racial South Africa. The implication is that white South Africans need not worry about being dis-

criminated against by a black majority government because it would be colour-blind." "As white South Africans look for a new political system reconciling their aspirations with those of the black majority they might find it difficult to accept they will not need special protection."

Political Deaths

"The death toll in political violence in South Africa reached 1,559 at the end of April, the South African Institute of Race Relations said in Johannesburg today," Johannesburg *SUNDAY TIMES* in English on 11 May reports on the first page of its "extra" section. "Whereas 149 people had been killed in the last four months of 1984, the figure for the first four months of 1986 was 531, the SAIRR said. The figure for 1985 as a whole was 879."

Memorandum on Squatting

On page 3 of the same section, the paper reports that a memorandum attached to the Abolition of Influx Control Bill says the government accepts that "freedom of movement to and in urban areas" should apply " 'on a non-discriminatory basis for citizens of the Republic of South Africa, taking into consideration the distinctive settlement circumstances of communities in the Republic.' " The Government said that its urbanization policy would not make distinctions based on race or color, that influx control and passbooks will be abolished and that "universal measures to combat nuisances such as disorderly squatting" will be more effectively enforced. The memorandum says that as some local authorities do not have the ability to handle squatting, the bill gives the state president the power to entrust the execution of the Squatting Act to any " 'particular authority or functionary' " within the jurisdiction of that local authority.

'Comrades' Mistake

A report on page 4 of the same section says that a Bophuthatswana man "was burned to death by 'comrades' who mistook him for his brother, a policeman." The "comrades" had been looking for the policeman for a long time but were afraid to attack him in the daytime because he might shoot. They therefore attempted to attack him when he was asleep but got his brother by mistake.

EPG Plan

An article by Political Correspondent Max Du Preez on page 2 of the regular newspaper discusses the initiative of the Eminent Persons Group [EPG] and says that "reports this week indicated that the ANC itself may be more amenable than before to giving the EPG initiative a chance. The fortnightly newspaper *NEW NATION*, edited by Mr Zwelakhe Sisulu, son of jailed ANC leader Walter Sisulu and a man highly regarded in ANC circles, reported on Friday that the ANC 'is considering a truce deal made by the EPG in a bid to halt the escalating violence.' " In Cape Town, "government sources indicated this week that the Cabinet had not yet defined its bottom line on the EPG proposals. In this respect, the role of the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, is likely to be crucial." Foreign Minister Pik Botha is the leader of the school that believes that everything must be done to keep the initiative alive. However, Cooperation and Development Minister Chris Heunis has taken a stand against foreign involvement in the negotiations.

Government Housing Plan

Norman West reports on the same page on the government's housing plan to cater to the influx of blacks to urban areas. "Part of the government's plan is to upgrade 120 black towns and to purchase large tracts of land to develop for black individual ownership."

Town Rebuffs President

Carolina, the eastern Transvaal town celebrating its centenary, "has rebuffed the State President by withdrawing its offer to grant him the Freedom of the Town," Nel Hooper reports on page 5. The president had already accepted the town's offer of the award. However, "members of the Conservative Party, assisted by a member of the National Party, outvoted the National Party-controlled town council, withdrawing the invitation because the State President 'is a political figure.' " According to the former town clerk who dealt with the problem, " 'basically it was a fight between the National Party and the Conservative Party. The Conservative Party won when a member of the National Party supported the motion to withdraw the invitation to President Botha.' "

Guns in Steelpoort

Allan Soule and Samkelo Kumalo report on page 7 that Steelpoort residents are demanding increased protection from the army because of raids by " 'radical communist agitators' who regularly cross the border on night-time sabotage sorties." There has been a dramatic increase in the number of unrest incidents in the past 4 months. One farmer, who said he knew his name was on a hit list, said: " 'We are still a part of the "old volk" and will not tolerate subversion in this area.' " Pointing to Lebowa, he said: " 'If they want war, its war they'll get.' " Another noted that three elderly people had been murdered and seven attacked. All able bodied men have been called to join a commando unit, but threats have been made to burn their farms while they are away at military training.

Stanger Goes Multi-Racial

"In a mere five minutes and without acrimony, an all-white town council this week took a quiet but historic step — it unanimously voted to become multiracial," Ticks Chetty reports on page 10 of the *SUNDAY TIMES*. Stanger, north of Durban, is awaiting provincial permission to go ahead. It would be the first South African town to be run by whites, blacks, coloreds and Indians. The idea was proposed by a Solidarity Party MP Yunus Moolla, who said: " 'It is my firm belief that no central government reform will succeed unless an acceptable solution is found at local government level. The government has been talking about granting people the right to exercise thier local option. So, if the government genuinely believes in this, it would give Stanger's proposal its wholehearted support.' "

'Mixing' Showdown

"Two Natal cities are heading for a clash with the Government — they want to open residential areas to all races," Denyse Armour reports on the same page. The Durban City Council's management committee resolved to ask the government to delegate to it the authority to decide on segregated areas and the Maritzburg City Council is investigating establishing a non-racial suburb near Scottsville. The area, formerly designated as a future industrial site, would be aimed at providing housing for

the middle class. The vice chairman of the Durban City Council management committee said the country and city had been harmed by the " 'iniquitous' " Group Areas Act and that the government needed to be pointed squarely toward " 'dismantling this unjust machine.' "

Moderates on Campus

Stephan Terblanche reports on page 16 on the battle between moderate students and rightwing students at the University of Pretoria, where "moderates dealt the right a devastating blow this week when they forced the Tuks [University of Pretoria] Student Representative Council (SRC) executive committee to temporarily suspend the activities of the ultra-rightwing Afrikaner Studentefront (ASF) [Afrikaner Student Front] pending a decision on the ASF's total expulsion from the campus." This came 2 weeks after the launching of the moderate Youth Power Organization, which plans to hold meetings with the Inkatha Youth Brigade. Moderate students claim the rightwing students "have cleverly hijacked key organisations such as the SRC" and the rightwingers have been accused of launching a sex smear campaign against a moderate woman student leader, dragging a National Party student official from bed in early morning and leaving him handcuffed outside, organizing rowdy demonstrations, threatening moderate students with violence, manipulating Christian zealots, and destroying rival posters.

Growth of AWB

Max Du Preez reports on the same page that "the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging (AWB) [Afrikaner Resistance Movement] is enjoying a highly successful recruiting drive among whites — and succeeding in its efforts to hijack the Conservative Party. The AWB — some senior government sources believe — could soon prove to be a more serious threat to peace and stability in a new South Africa than revolutionaries of the left." Serious concern about the group is mounting in government and National Party [NP] circles. A government source said that the AWB has more than trebled its membership this year, and current strength is estimated at from 50,000 to 100,000. The NP thought the AWB would scare off conservatives. However, "NP leaders now agree that their approach to the AWB was wrong and that it actually served to further aid the movement." The NP is preparing for a showdown in Pietersburg on 22 May with a speech by Foreign Minister Pik Botha, who "has never failed to draw thousands of supporters and generate great enthusiasm with his open, tough approach." More seriously, the AWB reportedly has strong support among lower-ranking policeman, and the "AWB-SAP cross membership could be extremely dangerous in tense township situations."

SUNDAY TIMES on EPG Negotiation

The paper's editorial on page 18 says that "South Africa's salvation will come, if at all, by a hesitant process of act and omission, not as a quick fix from outside." Discussing the EPG's proposals for a compromise, the paper says that in the interest of those who have died or would otherwise die, "it is time for a breath of realism." The ANC's options are as narrow as the government's and failing to negotiate will keep it in the trenches for years. On its part, the government must "commit itself to some genuine horse-trading." Although the country's solutions will be crafted by South Africans, if the EPG "helps to open the smallest chink in the armour of suspicion its return this week should be welcomed. It could be a last chance for South Africans to help save themselves from themselves."

Chris Heunis Column

In the second in a series of articles, minister of constitutional Development and planning Chris Heunis writes on page 18 of the *SUNDAY TIMES* that "a serious programme for change in South Africa must not only provide a vision of a future South Africa — it must also answer the key question of why and how." A reform program must have analytical, prescriptive, and strategic elements. The government's main elements of its reform program are that all peoples form one nation but it is a nation of minorities, all must be able to participate in politics through elected representatives, all groups must have the right to manage their own affairs, domination of one group by another must be eliminated, a consensus on power-sharing is needed, respect for law must be maintained, and the integrity and freedom of country must be protected. He believes this can only be achieved through democratic methods using parliament and the National Council.

White Homeland

Tertium Mybrugh writes on page 19 that "the idea of a 'white homeland' may not, after all, be such a silly idea. It may, in the end, be the only way in which ultra-conservatives, afraid of change and therefore an obstacle to constitutional progress, can be parked out of the way while the rest of South Africa gets on with the business of constructing the post-apartheid society." In the past the type of people who have advocated the idea have made it disreputable. However, it is now quietly being given consideration by "serious observers." The idea is that if whites believe they are being painted into a corner and have no choice but to give into a multiracial society or fight, they will fight. Because of the destructive power of rightwing backlashes, "it might be expedient to provide them with a third choice: to opt out, even if only for the time being, so that they can have time to adapt to the reality that the world has changed around them." Although this may not be the most desirable course to follow, "given the scale of the problem, it is worth a thought."

ANC-NP Interests

David Willers writes on the same page that P.W. Botha and Oliver Tambo may find it in their own interests to make a deal at this time. Botha faces a serious challenge from the right and the young black youths are saying the ANC has become too middle class. Hence they both represent the "bourgeoisie" flanks of African-Afrikaner nationalism. A problem with the EPG deal is that the government is afraid that Mr Mandela's release will lead to such a sponteneous outburst that force will have to be used to restore order. In that event, Botha wants the West to pledge to resist calls for sanctions. Another problems is that the ANC and Pan-Africanist Congress [PAC] are saying they cannot agree to their unbanning without the unbanning of the South African Communist Party, which Mr Botha is unlikely to agree to do. Furthermore, the ANC does not want to be seen to be dealing with the PAC on equal terms. However, the EPG hopes that "like two old men (both are over 70) sitting on the stoop in the sun with a lifetime of quarrels behind them, the ANC and the National Party may soon be sharing tobacco from the pouch."

Stimulate Exports

Cees Bruggemans writes on page 12 of the paper's *BUSINESS TIMES* that South Africa cannot afford to follow a deflationary policy like West Germany because it has no developed social security infrastructure. Nor should it stimulate the economy across the board, as that would simply increase inflation, increase consumption, and increase imports. "We are simply exporting too much capital and too few goods. We do not notice that while the economy is kept in check." To increase exports, thereby earning more dollars, the state must "take the responsibility for setting up a framework within which reasonable risk and return relationships will initiate entrepreneurial projects," as private companies have been too timid to take the lead. The state should not pick the winners: the expertise for that is in the private section. "It can be harnessed through well-considered economic policies. The opportunity is now. Will somebody please grab it?"